

# The UNION

*Get Ready to Meet the King!*

God Calls His Church to  
Truth, Faith, and Holiness

2016  
Edition

*Joan H. Richardson*

# The UNION

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by Joan H. Richardson

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## CHAPTER 16

# On Eternal Security

One of the first questions a young believer asks is, “Can I lose the gift of eternal life God has given me?” We nearly always assure him, “Absolutely not. No sin you can commit will change things. You were saved by grace, not by good works, and good works don’t save you now.” But the Scriptures contradict those words; now the Holy Spirit does good works through us for our salvation, witnessing to us that we are His, and He sticks closer than a brother.

### *A Hell to Shun*

He wants children who desire to be like Him. In other words, He wants us who want Him. That’s the premise of this chapter, and it’s true: it would be wiser to tell the new believer God did not save him to lose him again; now God comes alongside to help him live a new life. He should know he must not return to the way he lived as a sinner, because now the Lord is with him to draw him into His holiness. If he receives this, His Holy Spirit will live in his heart as his Guide and Teacher, helping him to live by faith and steering him from sin.

His first step of obedience is to make a confession of Christ as Savior and Lord; his next step is to commit his life by baptism into water. As the token of the covenant, he is buried and raised from death with Christ to live a new life in Him. [The spiritual experience is pictured by its physical token.]

The new believer must learn about the cross, the blood atonement, the work of Christ on his behalf, and sanctification in his yielded heart. If he falls, he must confess it; God faithfully forgives and cleanses him of unrighteousness. (See 1 Jn 1:9) He should learn he represents Jesus to others. As he prays, believes the Word, and fellowships with other believers, his life will change. He learns to forget the past, to pursue gentleness, and to love others by faith in His Holy Spirit’s power to bear fruit.

Throughout their writings, the apostles urge us to obey the Lord, proving our love for Him. Yeshua told us, if we love Him, we’ll obey Him, but whoever loves this world or the things in

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this world does not have the love of the Father. When we love Him, we obey Him by His Spirit who brings forth the increase; then we're sure heaven's gate will open wide for us because we're committed to trust in His strength, not to strive in our own, but to rest in His.

### *Be Very Sure*

If we don't believe God, we won't pay attention to His words. Unless we read the words of the holy writings carefully, we won't purify ourselves by embracing them. If we are willing to obey, He will walk us through our trials, one day at a time, until we own the victory He gained. Those who know Him live to surrender to His will, in no matter how small a thing.

Many geniuses will be in hell while the mentally challenged will shine in heaven's kingdom, because God is all-wise. We must not depend on how smart we think we are to enter His presence: it only takes childlike faith. The apostles warned the congregation of believers against sin and unbelief:

For *it is impossible* for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put *Him* to an open shame. For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God; but if it bears thorns and briers, *it is rejected* and near to being cursed, whose end *is* to be burned.

(Hebrews 6:4-8)

The previous passage is about spurning the gift of life, even after walking in the Spirit while in relationship with the Father. If we return to sin after living in the Spirit, we disdain the Son of God. God forbid! The key phrase is, *it is impossible to renew them again to repentance*. They are unable to repent, reprobate by hardened hearts, desiring to sin. Few believers are aware of the eternal sin because teachers have assured us there's no sin that can't be forgiven while they ignore or discard the warnings,

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imagining they aren't meant for us. But the fear of God keeps us:

“Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy *against* the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the *age* to come.

(Matthew 12:31-32 NKJV; cf. Mark 3:28, Luke 12:10)

Why would the apostles *alarm* us if it were not possible for believers to spurn the gift of life we have received and thus lose our inheritance? No matter what a man says, the Word endures forever; its solemn warnings to the righteous remain as steadfast as its promises. The apostolic goal is to forearm us with knowledge for our salvation.

Apart from the fear of God, we endanger our consciences. Though it is discomfoting, the fear of the Lord gives us an edge against evil. Each time we turn from evil, we draw closer to our Father, and He knows our hearts; even when our hearts condemn us, He knows us better than we know ourselves, and He loves us. By persevering, we will enter His rest with obedience, obtained by faith. First comes His fear; then, His Sanctuary. Our faith embraces the whole Word of God without shame or apology:

... and every one who is having this hope on him, doth purify himself, even as he is pure. (1 John 3:3 YLT)

Every word of God is true, not just the ones that stroke us but also those that admonish, warn, and correct us. If we walk in the Spirit, He comforts us and ensures our safety; if we sin, the fear of God works repentance in our hearts. Our Father may severely chastise us, but if we repent, we won't be lost. All who belong to Him will suffer His discipline. “... *For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.*” (See Heb. 12:6) As we grow in wisdom, we learn to avoid the sting of His chastening hand, but disobedient children refuse to repent:

If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins

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is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. (Hebrews 10:26-31 NIV) – the writer's second warning

If we recklessly or willfully turn away from Jesus, returning to sin, we become reprobate. The context is not about stumbling into sin or even falling but about deliberately turning from the gift of salvation by sinning without repentance. We are all warned to cherish His grace and His sanctifying blood; to respect His sacrifice, and to cherish His presence.

The more popular teaching denies the Scriptures that warn us against sin. Teachers who say we can't fall away are lying to us, believing the devil's deceptions that destroy their own souls. Many teachers speak pleasant words to carnal hearts. Whatever pleases the majority, the rest seem to follow, receiving and manipulating words they don't want to believe.

You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.  
(Hebrews 10:36 NIV)

Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check. (Jas 3:1-2 NIV)

The writer of the following passage addresses *brothers*, who have been *partakers of Christ*, to hold fast our confession of faith. He exhorts us to secure our assurance by the way we live:

Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But

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exhort one another daily, while it is called To-day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we were made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confession stedfast unto the end; while it is said, To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. (Hebrews 3:12-15)

Perhaps we refuse to admit our fear that the warnings apply to us; but when the lion catches his prey, it's by contradictions against the words of God. Compromising the truth does not alter it. By repentance, we persevere to crucify compromise, and by believing the truth, we are saved.

Join with those who follow my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. For, as I have told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their belly, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. (Philippians 3:17-19 NIV)

Maybe most of us neglect the Scriptures because we've been indoctrinated by men for so long that our ears have become dull to hear what God is saying. When we turn its pages, the Bible's words aren't fiery or exciting anymore. It seems lifeless because our hearts have been trained to resist the truth.

We're in a dangerous spiritual condition, and we could die that way. If we will *dare* to believe God and throw out the leaven of teachings that have deafened our ears and hardened our hearts, then we will listen to His words and experience His fire that changes and purifies us from the inside out.

Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let *them* slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*; God also bearing *them* witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers

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miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will? (Hebrews 2:1-4)

We have been born again to live in the miraculous by faith in our supernatural God. That's not dull at all! Yeshua has given us new birth, and the difference is evident in who we are. We died and rose with Him to live entirely new lives. If we are in Him, we are beside our holy Father whose Spirit lives in us and hears every prayer. How can we continue as though we belong to the natural world while confessing we believe in His death, resurrection, and ascension? There's nothing natural about that!

### *Armed Warriors*

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober *in spirit*, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY." (1 Peter 1:13-16 NASB)

If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay *on earth*; knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood of Christ*. ...

Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart, for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, through the living and enduring word of God. (1 Peter 1:17-19, 22-23 NASB)

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare *are not* carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every

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thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. (2 Corinthians 10:3-6 NKJV)

We must arm ourselves just as Paul urged us to prepare. We don't rely on the weapons of the world but on the power of our God. The Lord commands us to be at peace with all men as much as we are able, and hold onto faith, the shield that protects us. We will keep the assurance of our salvation by avoiding sin, which can undermine our confidence.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (Ephesians 6:10-13)

### *Practicing Faith*

When we read and embrace the Scriptures, we hide them in our hearts, meditating on them and cherishing them. Speaking their words, we intercede for the church, our nation, and our leaders; praying for Israel, for persecuted saints, and for our enemies, we give thanks to God whose sovereignty is in His Word. We keep our lamps [our hearts] filled with oil [the Holy Spirit], knowing He will come for a perfect and blameless bride who will obey and serve Him, loving others as herself. She's dressed in white linen, the righteous works of the saints. And she's washed in the water of His Word.

Can we be all we should be? Not in ourselves alone, but the Holy Spirit is the life of Jesus who lives, not only in heaven, but also in us. He will accomplish the victory, even over wandering thoughts and deceptive desires, because we believe all things are possible with God: *For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. (1 Jn. 5:4)* We can do all He commands us by His Spirit, empowering us. (See Php. 4:13) We win our victories with prayer

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and supplication with thanksgiving. We prove Jesus Christ is the King of kings each time we pull down another stronghold by believing every word of God, and that reminds His nemesis of his defeat.

These are not idealistic goals. If His words weren't practical, they'd be false and misleading. Instead, they provide a pragmatic lifestyle by faith in a miracle-working God. The Scriptures have guided believers who have proven the integrity of God for ages, sternly warning those who would abuse grace by presumption. Though these are difficult words to receive, it's time to put off the old and put on the new:

These are springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom the black darkness has been reserved. For speaking out arrogant *words* of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error, promising them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved. For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT," and, "A sow, after washing, *returns* to wallowing in the mire." (2 Peter 2:17-22 NASB; cf. Ezek. 18:24; Pr. 26:11)

Who can say his carnal nature is not like that of a dog or a sow? The Spirit gives life to our bodies; without righteousness, no one has this life. It's not theoretical: it's real. We suffer discipline and correction but neither give up hope nor take our troubles lightly; we'll learn the lesson well for next time:

And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons:

**My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline lightly,  
or faint when you are reprov'd by Him,**

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### **For the LORD disciplines the one He loves And punishes every son He receives.**

(Hebrews 12:5-6 HCSB; cf. Proverbs 3:11-12)

If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

(James 1:26-27 NIV)

You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”? But He gives more grace. Therefore He says:

*“God resists the proud,  
But gives grace to the humble.”*

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and *your* joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up. (James 4:3-10 NKJV; cf. Pr 3:34)

His Spirit gives birth to Spirit; kind to His same kind. We must live by faith in His Spirit for righteousness. There is no better way to mature than to activate our faith in daily, mundane tasks. Do we fly off the handle when things don't go our way? or will we praise Him in everything? If we believe God loves us and cares about what we do, our reactions change with the meekness of Jesus, knowing He is always with us.

“But when a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity and does according to all the abominations that a wicked man does, will he

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live? All his righteous deeds which he has done will not be remembered for his treachery which he has committed and his sin which he has committed; for them he will die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not right.' Hear now, O house of Israel! Is My way not right? Is it not your ways that are not right? ... Again, when a wicked man turns away from his wickedness which he has committed and practices justice and righteousness, he will save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all his transgressions which he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die."

(Ezekiel 18:24-25, 27-28 NASB)

Have faith in God. Certainly the King of Israel is merciful, preferring grace for all who seek Him, but if we don't believe the truth, gambling our guesses are right, we risk our souls. Instead, let's yield to His words by believing and honoring the LORD.

The Tenakh is the Hebrew Bible, called the Old Testament by Christians. But gentiles misname the writings of the Jewish prophets, often closing their pages as Jews do the new covenant writings. As a result, not many churches know Israel's critical role in world history while not many synagogues know the New Testament is all about the Tenakh.

Perhaps we should call the Bible's books by more proper names: the Torah, the Prophets, the Writings, the Gospels, and the Letters as Part 1 and Part 2 rather than contradictory writings, which they are not. The new covenant, promised by Moses, has come, but that doesn't discard the value of what was written in ancient times under the inspiration of the Spirit.

The apostles explained the differences between covenants: particularly between Mosaic law and the final Sacrifice; they also explained the congruity of the Scriptures: The first part teaches us the way of God with Israel as our example, foreshadowing a new covenant and revealing His righteousness. The apostles drew their words from the ancient books. Committed to those words, believers have died as martyrs, following the Lord Jesus, the prophets, and the apostles, none of whom shrank from death. Knowing they gave up everything to be like Jesus, the same is true of believers worldwide today.

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My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. (James 1:2-4 NKJV)

Convenience and comfort are pleasant to her taste, so the church has not feared God, swallowing the deception of eternal security, no matter if a believer dies while practicing sin. The Word tells us, if we continue to sin after receiving the grace of God, it would be better for us if we'd never known His grace.

### *Disobedient Children*

If eternal security for believers who live in sin were true, we would easily find it throughout the apostles' writings. Instead, we meet numerous roadblocks and warnings—red flags against the teaching that's prevalent in today's churches, and the devil loves their lies.

Wolves are among us, flooding the church with deceptions. Satan has convinced us that sins of Christians are ignored by God who only sees the blood, but repeatedly, the apostles' writings warn us: if we continue to sin, we'll die! Romans 8:13 does not refer to sickness and death but to eternal death. The Word is spiritual—when a believer's body dies, he *sleeps*, he doesn't *die*!

If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who does not obey his father and mother and will not listen to them when they discipline him, his father and mother shall take hold of him and bring him to the elders at the gate of his town. They shall say to the elders, "This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious. He will not obey us. He is a profligate and a drunkard." Then all the men of his town shall stone him to death. You must purge the evil from among you. All Israel will hear of it and be afraid. (Deuteronomy 21:18-21 NIV)

How painful for parents whose children rebelled without repentance against their affection and guidance! Having given us free wills by faith in His Son, God has watched His own cleave to sin, even loving this world. Israel is an object lesson:

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God will destroy the disobedient sons who prefer sins, leading to death. Our real desires affect how we behave.

The churches have been told, “No one can snatch you out of His hand.” But that isn’t what the Scripture says. No one has been promised eternal life apart from obedience, taking up the cross and walking like Jesus did. Here’s that word in its context:

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”

(John 10:27-30 NASB) [We can only obey by His empowerment.]

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

**“Today, if you hear His voice,  
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,  
on the day of testing in the wilderness,  
where your fathers tested Me, tried Me,  
and saw My works for 40 years.  
Therefore I was provoked with that generation  
and said, “They always go astray in their hearts,  
and they have not known My ways.”  
So I swore in My anger,  
“They will not enter My rest.”**

Watch out, brothers, so that there won’t be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart that departs from the living God. But encourage each other daily, while it is still called **today**, so that none of you is hardened by sin’s deception. (Hebrews 3:7-13 HCSB; cf. Psalm 95:7-11)

There are many arguments and manipulations of the Bible’s words. How often we’ve heard the deceptive serpent! The devils always ask the question, “*Has God really said ...?*” Then the snake proceeds to wind his way through the Word, leading us on a path to destruction.

He also uses the introduction of all the different teachers’ teachings. “Have you heard so-and-so...?” He adds twigs to the weaving—anything he can find to mislead or redirect us from the Scriptures. What *chutzpah!*

## On Eternal Security

For our sakes, God required the Hebrew parents to do as our holy Father in heaven will do. He gave us the *right to become* His children, but if we continue to rebel rather than submit to His words, then we are the *disobedient children*, the hypocrites who are destroyed with all of the sinners. We *should not perish, but have eternal life*—whether we live or die depends on believing His words. (See Jn. 3:16) We resist evil by yielding to His Spirit and by turning to Him in prayer with thanksgiving.

God is almighty, and He is able to finish His good work in us if we believe in His words, simply by trusting our Father. The sooner we learn that we can do nothing but fail with our own efforts, the more quickly we'll move forward to apprehend the maturity of Jesus Christ in God the Father by His Spirit's power.

He only wants us who want Him; it's why He treated Israel as He did; He will do the same for us. Is that difficult to understand? If we don't want to be like Him, then we don't want Him. All He requires is that we enjoy walking with Him, loving His company, sharing conversations with Him, and feeding on His words. Over the test of time, Jesus appears in us by walking in fellowship and love with others.

There is no other path to life, no other escape from hell than *Christ in you, the hope of glory*. (See Col. 1:27) We all stumble into sin, but God extends grace to us who return to Him. Eternal security belongs to us who persevere by faith, even in our trials, keeping the faith because Yeshua rose from the dead. The Spirit leads us into steps after Him until His ways become our habits.

“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!  
(Matthew 6:22-23 NIV)

The choice to sin led to death in Eden; but we who continue to press toward the mark of love and holiness seek eternal life. If by His strength, we live like the Son of God, His righteousness will increase in us, and where good works abound, *they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ*. (2 Pet. 1:8)

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Understanding the process of sanctification strengthens our resolve. When we realize there is no other way to be righteous than by faith in Messiah, we persevere through the greatest trials, even after we've been disappointed in ourselves. Faith raises up our faces to look to Jesus, and the pursuit is on again!

Is this a doctrine of works? Yes, and this doctrine of works by the Holy Spirit inspired the writers of a new covenant. The Spirit of Jesus lives in each of us who receives Him and believes in Him. Abba gives us His Holy Spirit who willingly obey Him.

Can we claim our works as credit to ourselves—as our own righteousness? We claim this: we believe the power of Messiah in us equips us to do His will. We obey because we believe He has given us His righteousness, and we behave like we believe our confession is true because faith is *the reality of things hoped for*—their very evidence!

God credited Abraham's works to him as righteousness since he believed God, later acting like it, proving his faith. Because he believed, Abraham feared God and applied his faith; even in the greatest test, his faith rose to life by his works, and YHWH comforted Abraham because his faith was living and proven by his actions: he behaved like he believed in the Almighty One.

The well-known adage is often true: "Actions speak louder than words"; but words, overflowing from the heart, reveal the soul and direct the course of our lives: with words that proceed from our hearts, we believe and confess our faith; then, act on it.

Without considering the Scriptures, we would eagerly listen to everything our teachers and prophets say, and we'd believe every word. We might reason together with human logic, while ignoring what God says. Wondering why we should repent, we haven't believed Him though we profess the faith. Will we find ourselves thinking like any sinner by refusing to believe God? Have we returned to Eden and chosen the deception again?

Now the just shall live by faith; but if *any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him*. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. (Hebrews 10:38-39; cf. Hab 2:3-4) [The writer encourages those among us who truly believe God. The Word is a two-edged sword: if we twist it, we will suffer its consequences.]

## On Eternal Security

“And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to everyone according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last.” Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. (Revelation 22:12-15 NKJV)

The cares and pleasures of this world choke the Word and make it unfruitful. If we say, “Yes, but we’re still saved,” our words reveal we have no desire for godliness. *Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.* (Jas. 3:13) By His apostles’ words, the Spirit urges us to live worthy of His calling, aiming for perfection and His resurrection—our full redemption! Paul reminds us that we are not alone:

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. (Philippians 2:12-13)

Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. (1 John 2:15-16)

Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? (2 Peter 3:11-12)

The meat of the Word is difficult to swallow, but it’s here for all believers, not just for the mature among us. If we’ve been Christians for many years, we should eat spiritual meat, not just drink milk. It’s time to apply our assurance with fear and take in

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the things we've thought we couldn't tolerate. As we pursue faith in His words, He reveals more of them by His Spirit.

"He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." (Revelation 3:5-6 NKJV)

Wisdom calls aloud outside;

She raises her voice in the open squares.

She cries out in the chief concourses,

At the openings of the gates in the city

She speaks her words:

"How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity?

For scorners delight in their scorning,

And fools hate knowledge.

"Turn at my rebuke;

Surely I will pour out my spirit on you;

I will make my words known to you.

Because I have called and you refused,

I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded,

Because you disdained all my counsel,

And would have none of my rebuke,

I also will laugh at your calamity;

I will mock when your terror comes,

When your terror comes like a storm,

And your destruction comes like a whirlwind,

When distress and anguish come upon you.

"Then they will call on me, but I will not answer;

They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.

Because they hated knowledge

And did not choose the fear of the LORD,

They would have none of my counsel

And despised my every rebuke.

Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way,

And be filled to the full with their own fancies.

For the turning away of the simple will slay them,

And the complacency of fools will destroy them;

But whoever listens to me will dwell safely,

And will be secure, without fear of evil."

(Proverbs 1:20-27, 32-33 NKJV) [Wisdom speaks to attentive listeners. Those who sleep miss the meanings of her words.]

## On Eternal Security

It couldn't be clearer: personal responsibility and relationship are required for us to become His children who inherit our birthright and blessing by faith in His words.

“Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.” (Acts 17:30-31 NASB)  
[Re: the return of our Lord from heaven and His Judgment]

ADONAI has chosen soldiers for the terrible Day of the LORD. No army can match the troops of the King, Yeshua:

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill.  
Let all who live in the land tremble,  
for the day of the LORD is coming.  
It is close at hand— a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and blackness.

Like dawn spreading across the mountains  
a large and mighty army comes,  
such as never was of old  
nor ever will be in ages to come.

Before them fire devours,  
behind them a flame blazes.  
Before them the land is like the garden of Eden,  
behind them, a desert waste—  
nothing escapes them.

They have the appearance of horses;  
they gallop along like cavalry.  
With a noise like that of chariots  
they leap over the mountaintops,  
like a crackling fire consuming stubble,  
like a mighty army drawn up for battle.

At the sight of them, nations are in anguish;  
every face turns pale.

They charge like warriors;  
they scale walls like soldiers.  
They all march in line,  
not swerving from their course.

They do not jostle each other;  
each marches straight ahead. (Continued)

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They plunge through defenses without breaking ranks.  
They rush upon the city; they run along the wall.  
They climb into the houses;  
like thieves they enter through the windows.

Before them the earth shakes, the sky trembles,  
the sun and moon are darkened,  
and the stars no longer shine.

The LORD thunders at the head of his army;  
his forces are beyond number,  
and mighty are those who obey his command.

The day of the LORD is great; it is dreadful.

Who can endure it? (Joel 2:1-11 NIV)

Obedience by faith in His righteousness at work in us is everlasting life. This is our goal and our hope in Him. (See Jn. 12:49-50)

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to the end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel. (Ephesians 6:10-19 NKJV)

He that believeth in the Son hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. (1 John 5:10)

## CHAPTER 17

# Denying the Power

But know this: Difficult times will come in the last days. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, without love for what is good, traitors, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to the form of godliness but denying its power. Avoid these people!

(2 Timothy 3:1-5 HCSB)

### *A Solid Rock*

We are not here to relax with an air of sophistication. Let's begin to carefully listen, believe, repent, yield, obey, and expect great things. What is unseen is eternal; its truth is the foundation of our faith with an incorruptible goal; thus, the righteous live by faith, not by what we see. The Word is spiritual seed, living by the Spirit in it, just as the fruit is in its seed. His words are in His Spirit, like seeds inside the fruit; His Spirit speaks the utterances of God because out of the abundance of His heart, He speaks.

By faith in Yeshua's name, His Spirit changes us and rouses us to life because His holy name is in His Spirit just as His Holy Spirit is in His name. We receive His life as we receive His words. When we take the Scriptures into our hearts by believing them, they activate His Spirit in our daily routines. The cross we carry is death to self but the joy of His life rises out of our death.

Some say they believe in Jesus but then deny the power of His words. While admitting their lives were changed by faith in Him, they deny miracles are for today! They want to stop where they started. Perhaps they think it's safe to remain in the natural world, but shrinking back from His words, they revise the good news: miracles are available to us by faith in Jesus Christ because He lives today!

The race is before us, but when the gun went off, they stood still, disinterested in winning its prize by believing every word of God, they haven't moved from the start line. They might remain there until the race is over, having buried the supply that the

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Lord gave them to increase. Don't stop at the entrance; cross the threshold and be filled and baptized in His Holy Spirit. Overflow, be immersed, drink it up, not only in water, but also in the Spirit. Let's put on all the armor we can find, not coming short of the call of God in Christ. The darkness is here. What perilous times!

And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8:34-37)

When we repented and believed in His Son, God changed us; now He wants to continue our transformation into the likeness of Jesus Christ—by miracles within us and among us! Will we surrender our lives to Him? If we hold onto what we have, living for ourselves, we'll lose what we think we have, refusing to give it up. He sees our need and commands our rest in His Spirit, but we must not refuse Him. Though unbelief rejects His words, faith walks in His power.

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. (Hebrews 13:8)

### *Miracles Today?*

Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away. (Genesis 5:24 NIV)

Miracles testify to the virtuous, gentle, yet powerful Holy Spirit, the purity of life in the breath of God. The Spirit of God testifies in Yeshua, the Word from heaven; He also speaks His Word to us. Of John the baptizer, Yeshua said:

He was a burning and a shining light: and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light.

But I have greater witness than *that* of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the

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same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. (John 5:35-36)

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. (John 14:12-14 NKJV)

Some don't believe Jesus meant what He said, but the Word of God understands the languages of men. When miracles occur in the name of Jesus Christ but we deny they're from God, how are we different from the Jews who denied His miracles came from God? Yeshua referred to an eternal sin, never forgiven, not now or in the age to come—against the Holy Spirit, i.e. attributing His works to the devil, or sinning against Him.

Saul had spoken ignorantly against the followers of Christ, and there was pardon; however, if someone imputes the miracles of the Holy Spirit to the devil, it is the eternal sin for which Jesus said there is never forgiveness. The Spirit works miracles, signs, and wonders since the life of the Creator is in His Holy Spirit.

The Word came to Noah, commanding him to build an ark to escape the coming flood. He labored one hundred twenty years to complete the project, which he constructed in godly fear. It had never before rained, but a mist had covered the ground to water it. After the animals entered the ark, God tucked in Noah's family, shutting the door just as the torrential rains suddenly began and fountains of the deep opened up. The deluge lasted forty days and nights, destroying everything on earth.

Many of us scoffed at the story until Jesus changed our minds when He miraculously transformed our hearts. Then we believed and understood that nothing is impossible for God. Since that time, we have believed that because Noah was a man with godly fear and undying faith in the God of miracles, God preserved his family through the worldwide flood. Noah saved far more “unclean” than “clean” animals in his ark, and he became the father of a whole new world. His tenacious faith set

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the standard for others, and his amazing story is ready to be revealed in our time, for *this is like the days of Noah*. (Mat. 24:37)

Abram acted on his faith in God and left the land of Haran when he was seventy-five years old. He did not consider his age a deterrent to live by faith in God, but he obeyed the LORD. He built an altar in Shechem, and God increased His promises:

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 show 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: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. (Genesis 12:1-3)

The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. (Genesis 12:7 NIV)

The LORD promised Abram that he would bless all nations by his seed; although he had no seed, his faith grew stronger with time. Before Abraham received the physical evidence of the promises, he pressed in, expecting their arrival and fulfillment. He wasn't disappointed; he had believed in God, and by his faith, he has seen the nations, grafted into his line by faith. The LORD is God of the living, and Abraham is still our example, alive by the Word of the Author of life.

It was not that Abraham was perfect—he had his faults, and some were recorded in the Scriptures for anyone to read. While he was imperfect, he was chosen as patriarch of a nation through whom God would father a Son. Why choose Abram? The LORD is Sovereign and does as He pleases for His glory.

After Abram agreed with Sarai to have relations with her Egyptian servant, Hagar gave birth to Ishmael. So Sarai believed Abram was virile since God had promised him a son.

When the LORD came again, he was ninety-nine and Ishmael was thirteen. At that time, God affirmed that Sarah, Abraham's aged wife, would give birth to the promised son in a year. His seed, united with his wife's seed, became the promised son. God later called him, *your son, your only son* (See Gen. 22:2) because

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Isaac was his son by Sarah, Abraham's formerly barren wife; he was the promised son by his miraculous conception and birth in their old age. When Abraham was a hundred and Sarah was ninety, Isaac was born. When he became a man, he married his distant cousin, Rebecca, and fathered twins: Esau and Jacob. Though Esau was first born, God gave Jacob both the birthright and blessing, and Jacob took them. Afterward, he was in the desert where he had a supernatural experience as he slept:

And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, *I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.*  
(Genesis 28:12-14)

Jacob married Leah though he thought he married Rachel, and together with their handmaids they brought forth the leaders of the twelve tribes of Israel. [This was before men learned that God intended marriage between one man and one woman, for *the two shall be one flesh.* (See Gen. 2:24)]

Why did Jacob marry Leah and not Rachel? Was it that, in his drunkenness, he couldn't see straight to identify his wife, thinking he had bedded down with Rachel to consummate their marriage? or had he become drunk in order to marry Leah whom God had chosen as his wife? Jacob was buried beside Leah, not Rachel. The Almighty had predestined her seed, not that of her younger sister, to be Judah whose seed would be King of Israel.

The patriarchs had believed the promises, and finally the Messiah came through Judah by David's line, blessing all the families of the earth with salvation. When the Seed of the Spirit was received by the virgin's seed (See Gen. 3:15; cf. Is. 7:14, Mat. 1:18-23), His only begotten Son was born as His eternal Word in mortal flesh: *And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry*

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*of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself ... (2 Cor. 5:18-19a)*

Though the sin of the woman had caused the fall of mankind, God bestowed grace on the woman whose seed would die to save mankind. The Word was God (See Jn. 1:1), coming into our flesh, born as Jesus Christ by His conception; having woven His Word as the seed of a man, God created a miracle that holds within it the mystery of the life in His Word! (See Jn. 1:14)

“In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness. (Zechariah 13:1 NKJV)

All of the historic events and prophetic writings were supernatural, coming from a miracle-working, prophesying God with whom all things are possible for anyone who believes and lives by his faith. As He did in the days of Abraham, Moses, and Noah, God searches the earth for people willing to bring glory to His name through faith in His supernatural power.

Before believing the Scriptures, most of us thought the story of Jonah in the belly of the great fish was foolishness, not realizing the Bible is far more than some Jewish bedtime book: it's the book about the awesome God of Israel, the all-powerful God of miracles, signs, and wonders. When God speaks, the breath in His words inspires the prophets and apostles. His words have life in them today, imparting life to believers.

Jonah's hopeless situation in the belly of the great fish and his subsequent rebirth, as it were, onto dry ground became a sign of Yeshua's death, burial, and resurrection. Even the prophet's *chastisement* was a miraculous sign from our supernatural God!

When He sent plagues against Egypt, the Hebrews left the land of slavery and passed through the Red Sea, which drowned the Egyptian army that pursued them—because the God of Israel works miracles! In a desert, He fed them quail and spiritual *manna*; He gave them spiritual water to drink from a spiritual rock, traveling with them through the wilderness—all miracles!

If we profess faith in Jesus Christ, we must believe He works miracles today. At times, God speaks to us by miracles. When Yeshua healed the sick, raised the dead, cast out demons, cleansed the lepers—the Spirit of the Father worked miracles

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through Him. The writings are replete with miracles of the same Spirit in believers, baptized in His power. Even the writer of the letter to the Hebrews lists miracles that happened because people through the ages believed in the miracle-working God!

Living faith quickens the relationship between God and the repentant soul: by faith, the soul transforms by a second birth—apart from flesh—begotten as spiritual by the Holy Spirit, the Word. Have we repented but not been born of the Spirit?

Now is faith of things being hoped [the] reality, of things [the] proof not being seen, For obtained witness the elders by this. (Hebrews 11:1-2; ZGE [a literal translation])

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. (Hebrews 11:1-2)

Look, he is coming with the clouds,  
and every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and all the peoples of the earth will mourn  
because of him.

So shall it be! Amen. (Revelation 1:7 NIV)

If our faith doesn't include victory over the impossible, then we aren't living by faith in God. If we don't believe having faith in God brings miracles, how can we pray for miracles we need, believing He hears us? Our faith pleases Him, not our doubts!

But does anyone doubt that the Holy Spirit lives in him? then he should pursue God to receive Him, asking, seeking, knocking. If he will surrender his body *as a living sacrifice*, asking Christ to take control, He will, and the believer will know it. He must be tenacious, refusing disappointment; our Father will change his life. We can only know the One who lives in us by walking with Him.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus.

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Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:14-17 NIV)

Who professes the faith but lacks the power for godly living? We can believe all *about* Jesus Christ without committing our lives to Him. If we're uncertain whether He lives in us, we must surrender to Him in humility, seeking Him to receive us as a sacrifice, pursuing Him until we know He has done it. We tell Him how desperately we need to know Him; then search for Him till we receive the goal of our faith: Christ in us by His Spirit, ruling in our hearts: *Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.* (Rom. 8:9b) If we hear these words, we must act on them by faith, trusting Him to answer.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. (James 1:17 NKJV)

### *Gifts of the Spirit*

*Keep on asking, keep on seeking, and keep on knocking* to receive the Gift of God. Our experience is more than intellectual; His Holy Spirit is the abundant life of God, who lives in Jesus and raised Him from the dead. Has anyone been dead inside? Our Father doesn't give His children something evil but good:

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. ... If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if *he ask* a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? (Luke 11:9, 11-13) – Jesus

Before Jesus was born, God had given His Holy Spirit to those who'd surrendered their lives to Him, but there was not a great outpouring of the Spirit like that which came upon all the disciples and the nations. Previously, the Spirit had anointed the kings and the prophets but not many others. The gifts of the Spirit weren't widely distributed until the resurrection. We who

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have received Him have great promises, perhaps unknown to the ancients whose testimonies certainly seem to outshine ours.

But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. (1 Corinthians 13:10)

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ will be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-13 NIV)

When did Paul say the perfect would come? When *we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ!* We might ask, "Are we there yet?" If not, then these things have not passed away. Nevertheless, many scholars contend that the perfect has come, and the miracles have gone. If they believe the manuscripts are perfect and complete, why do they refute their words? *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through our knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue (2 Pet. 1:3).* Have we buried our gifts?

God ordains prophets and apostles, leading them to watch over, guide, and feed His churches. Strategically placing them among congregations, He ensures the safety and sound doctrine of believers. The love of the truth leads us into the safety of His counsel. But when He returns, shall the Son of man *find faith on the earth?* (See Lk. 18:8) Is God natural or supernatural? Are we His children?

Other problems occur with the idea that the gifts have passed away: First, we see the supernatural gifts in operation by the Spirit in our Savior's life. Though He was perfect, the teachers oppose the very gifts He practiced. And Yeshua said we would do the same things and even *greater* works than His! Since that time, devoted Christians have received the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit, affirmed by Jesus as from the Father.

The apostolic writings include guidelines for the use of miraculous gifts within the churches. The prophet Joel describes

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the last days' outpouring of the Spirit whose anointing conveys His intention to declare the gospel with miracle-working power. The anointing came to men who spoke languages they did not know, yet foreigners in the crowd heard them magnifying God: another miracle from the God of miracles! When the followers in Jerusalem experienced the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy, quoting its words, Peter announced the promises for us all:

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call. (Joel 2:28-32;cf. Acts 2:16-21)

Confirmed by the Scriptures, gifts of His Spirit encourage, teach, and correct us. Prophetic dreams may come, but never to the exclusion of the Word. When dreams are *not* from God, they confuse, deceive, tempt, divide, or ensnare us by turning us from the Word. However, lying spirits have not removed the dreams and visions sent from God. Likewise, there are false teachers galore, but they don't annul the truth of God. We must each test everything and must give account for our words.

God sends dreams and visions to warn, guide, instruct, and deliver us from sin, drawing us closer by His Spirit. He might heal a broken heart, touch us with compassion, or mend a torn relationship—by a dream! He can prepare us for the future with prophetic dreams, give us insight, or inspire us with awe; but He never contradicts, contorts, or manipulates His Word—ever!

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children,

## Denying the Power

and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. —Peter (Acts 2:38-39)

Though false prophets tell us everything we want to hear, the Lord Himself sends true prophets and apostles to the churches. He ordains the “called out ones,” and He alone instructs them by His Spirit, never departing from His Word.

True prophets enunciate the Scriptures as aides to the body, declaring what God says, opening the ears of our spirits and the eyes of our hearts; then, by hearing and receiving, perceiving and understanding, we realize His truth. God commands prophets to warn churches of impending dangers (foreknowledge, Acts 21:11); to spot predators (discerning of spirits, Jude 18-19) ; to contend for the truth (correctly dividing the Word, Acts Ch’s. 2, 3, 7, etc.); and to expose false teachings (courage and wisdom, Acts 3:12-26). Here is the gift in operation by foreknowledge:

During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them, named Agabus, stood up and predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) The disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help to the brothers living in Judea. This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul. (Acts 11:27-30 NIV)

The same prophet also delivered a personal prophecy to the apostle—foretelling what Jerusalem had in store for Paul. The elder respected the prophet but went to the city even if it meant death to him. He was arrested and scourged. After two years, he was sent to Rome where he remained for two more years under house arrest, writing letters to the churches:

After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. Coming over to us, he took Paul’s belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, “The Holy Spirit says, ‘In this way the Jews of Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.’”

When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. “Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not

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only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” (Acts 21:10-13 NIV) [warning and foreknowledge from a prophet to the apostle.]

“Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity.”

(Acts 8:22-23 NASB) [discerning of spirits] – Peter, to the magician

There are *unknown* tongues, which believers speak, *not to men, but to God* (See 1 Cor. 14:2); God knows all languages and places gifts into the hearts of those who ask, seek, knock, and receive the Spirit from Him. It is unwise to criticize the gifts of His Holy Spirit.

For he that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God; for no man understandeth *him*; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

(1 Corinthians 14:2)

In the epistles to the Corinthian congregation alone, more than seventy verses describe the proper use of supernatural gifts. If we cut out, blot out, or erase their words from our minds, we lose the promises by refusing them, and are guilty of omitting and denying the words of God:

Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. (Proverbs 30:6)

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

(John 14:12)

## CHAPTER 18

### It's a Miracle!

Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. ... Therefore his sisters sent unto Him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. ... When Jesus heard *that*, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified. Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was. ... and after that he said unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth, but I go that I may awake him out of sleep. ... Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him. (John 11:1, 3-6, 11, 14-15)

The Father would honor Yeshua's beloved friend, Lazarus, chosen to participate in the glorious revelation of His Son; therefore, in His love for them, Jesus deliberately delayed His departure to raise him from death, foreknowing that the Father would glorify Him in this family at the apex of His ministry. Yeshua was glad He had waited for Lazarus to die, looking forward to this resurrection because He wanted His disciples to witness His authority over death and to believe in Him:

So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. ... Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:17, 20-26 NKJV)

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Though He had hoped to find faith in his close friends, they had not yet comprehended the magnitude of His authority. He had come the distance into Judea for a divine purpose: to glorify His Father, knowing His Father would also glorify Him. Jesus didn't weep for their sorrow but for their *unbelief*. Listen:

When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the Spirit, and was troubled, And said, Where have ye laid Him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see. Jesus wept. Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him! But some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died? Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it. (John 11:33-38)

As we exercise spiritual gifts, we minister to one another's needs. Our bodies need a supernatural touch for healing and strength, but if we reject the gifts of God, we deny His healing power. As He loves His own body, He loves the true church and guides us into His compassion. We represent Jesus Christ as He reaches out to a hurting world. His love is effective through us when our faith meets the needs of the oppressed by faith in Him. Have we any idea how great the power of His Spirit is within us?

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. (Galatians 5:16-21 NKJV)

When we believe the Word to deliver us from the darkness of our confusion, He leads us into the light of His truth. If we

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believe Yeshua once died yet lives today, then we believe He washed our sins away and today sets us free to grow in holiness. As we embrace His words, He empowers us to live by them.

The God we worship, seated in heaven, also lives in us. He knows every thought, action, and word; where we go, He goes. He is with us *always, even to the end of the world.*

This is a call to repentance for us who have believed Jesus died and rose again but have hindered the Spirit by our unbelief. It's time to yield ourselves in prayer to receive the gifts of His Spirit, willing to look like fools for Christ, laying down our lives for the truth as the holy apostles and prophets did before us.

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. (Titus 2:13-14)

### *Fruit of the Spirit*

Have we thought He is far off but not near? Have we received His Spirit since we believed? He calls us to yield to His presence:

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. (Galatians 5:22-26 NKJV)

We say one thing but do another. For instance, we say we believe every word of God is true but deny the faith we profess by disobedience. In fact, we have not believed His words. If we believe God, by faith we press into His Spirit for the truth; then we obey Him, the signature that endorses the reality of our love.

Yeshua calls us to follow Him and means what He says; it does not take mental, verbal, or intellectual acrobatics to explain His words. We must believe the Scriptures, or we're hypocrites; in which case, we are lying, calling God a liar, and we are lying about ourselves because we really haven't believed Him! By the

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same unbelief, men have perverted the truth to please the carnal nature. But the Spirit yields His fruit by our faith in His truth.

“He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor. (John 12:25-26 NKJV)

### *Power of the Life*

Contrary to the popular teaching, the word translated, “perfect” does not usually mean “mature.” Its accurate and common definition is “perfect.” The word “blameless” in the next passage is also properly translated “perfect” from the Greek and is the same word used to describe Adam before the fall:

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely. And may your spirit, soul, and body be kept sound and blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 HCSB)

Notice the previous words, “sound and blameless” and “*He ... also will do it.*” The same word is used again here: *But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.* (Jas.1:4) Correctly translated, “*perfect,*” its primary meaning is to keep oneself unspotted by the world. The same is true of this familiar phrase: *Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.* (Mat. 5:48)

The word *holokleros* describes no lack of goodness in the Christian’s walk. A similar word is found here: *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.* (Jas. 1:17) That “*perfect gift*” is one that has all the necessary qualities. The same word is used here:

But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. (James 1:25)

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The perfect law of liberty is the law of love, the royal law of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit perfectly empowers us to obey His moral laws. The word translated "*perfect*" is similar to the one used in Hebrews 9:11: By His blood, He entered *by a greater and more perfect tabernacle*. Where it's clearly implied, these words may be translated as "*mature*," but most often, "*perfect*" is the choice. Perfection is our goal if we hope to be made pure by Jesus who takes away our sins. The progressive "*pressing on*" is to full age, but gaining that for which He apprehended us means to become as He is, not anything less:

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. Only let us live up to what we have already attained. (Philippians 3:13-16 NIV)

By seeking to satisfy the lusts of our flesh, we have no idea that we don't have to live that way. Our professed faith is dead if we don't include it each day by our words and actions. (See Jas. 2:26) For this reason, many who profess faith remain in bondage to sin, which will lead them into hypocrisy and its judgment. But God sees the heart that desires Him, wanting His kingdom and righteousness above this world. Are we moving forward or sliding backward?

And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. (Ephesians 2:1-3 NKJV)

We are not without hope when we believe in Jesus to set us free, but as long as we expect to sin, we won't be free. We are only free by believing that Jesus empowers us to resist sin. If we

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stumble or if we fall, we confess our sin, are cleansed of it, and get out of it and go on.

Though many practice sin while confessing His holy name and saying, “It’s okay, no one is perfect.” or, “We’re just sinners saved by grace,” but it’s not okay. Messiah didn’t save us from sin for us to be sinners saved by grace. His blood washed us to be holy, saints—new creatures, sanctified, honorable, chosen! Any other teaching is a deception of the devil.

This is why even the greatest teachers of the Word have constant problems with impure thoughts: they resist the fear of God that purges us—body, soul, and spirit. *The fear of the Lord is clean. (Ps. 19:9a)*

What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

(Philippians 3:8-9 NIV)

The objective is to press on to perfection, not to quit before the finish line. Paul said he had not yet been made perfect, but it was his goal, and we must keep that objective close to us, not trusting our own power. Our strength is weak to do the will of God. He has called us to win a spiritual war, not to fail in our strength. Therefore, He equips us for victory by His Holy Spirit.

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

(2 Timothy 4:6-8 NASB)

When Paul said, *For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain*, and when he said, *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved*

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*me, and gave himself for me* (Php. 1:21; also Gal. 2:20a), he was not living in defeat but was overcoming in the victory of the Messiah who appeared in him by His Spirit. (Paul was telling the truth!)

We who have been rescued from sin, death, and hell must not sin as though we're not transformed into new creatures. The Word of life changes us, and the Spirit's power frees us. Though the flesh competes against the Spirit; as our faith perseveres, the Spirit gains the victories until the end of our race when we cross that finish line, and Christ is fully formed in us.

### *Leaning on Love*

This is the dilemma: Love is paramount in the Messianic experience, and it is our greatest challenge. What is love?

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is short-sighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:2-11 NKJV)

*Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation,*

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continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. (Romans 12:9-13 NKJV)

The Word of God speaks of His compassion. We obey the commands of our King in the war of light against darkness as we pattern our steps after the Lord Jesus:

Finally, *all of you be* of one mind, having compassion for one another: love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. (1 Peter 3:8-9 NKJV)

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. (Matthew 22:37-40)

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endure all things. Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. (1 Corinthians 13:1-10 NKJV)

Though wearied, Yeshua continued to serve and love others. He called His disciples to account when they were at fault; still,

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His love was undying for them. He exhorted them, not by flattery but by raising the bar. Studying Him, we find our final glory is our love for one another, only ours by His Spirit.

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

(1 Corinthians 13:12-13 NIV)

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. (1 John 4:7-12)

Some of us will walk with Him like Enoch; others will fight battles like Joshua; some will be meek as Moses; others, faithful like Esther. Together we will endure with thanksgiving, praying like Paul, praising like David, and working miracles like Peter; someone will have the Spirit of Elijah, like John the baptizer.

We live each day by faith in the power of Jesus' life in us. That power is the working of His Sovereign Spirit who changes us, conforming us to the Son of God. We long for His appearing within us as well as in the skies.

Therefore, I say this and testify in the Lord: You should no longer walk as the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their thoughts. They are darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them and because of the hardness of their hearts. They became callous and gave themselves over to promiscuity for the practice of every kind of impurity with a desire for more and more.

But that is not how you learned about the Messiah, assuming you heard Him and were taught by Him,

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because the truth is in Jesus: you took off your former way of life, the old man that is corrupted by deceitful desires; you are being renewed in the spirit of your minds; you put on the new man, the one created according to God's likeness in righteousness and purity of the truth. (Ephesians 4:17-24 HCSB)

The process of sanctification leads us into righteousness, holiness, and glorification; at times, it's a painful experience but faith endures. His sanctification converts our weakness into His strength and our carnal souls into His holy bride. The stumbling, the bumbling, and the falling down will pass away. Like the writing of this book, striking the correct keys; or the work it takes for a pianist to finally perform in the concert hall, how we end the race matters most.

### *The Offense*

Those who want to make a good impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. Not even those who are circumcised obey the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. (Galatians 6:12-15 NIV)

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where *is* the wise? where *is* the scribe? where *is* the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? (1 Corinthians 1:18-20)

Some have turned away from the offense of the cross, but the weight of the cross is the truth of our Savior in the scriptures that prophesied His death. On its wood, He endured our pain. How can we deny the glory of its mission or shun its offense?

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but we carry our own crosses, living by His accomplishments in our fleshly nature, nailed to the cross He bore.

And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased. (Galatians 5:11)

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.  
(Colossians 1:19-20 NIV)

For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body.  
(Philippians 3:18-21 NIV)

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do if God permit.  
(Hebrews 6:1-3)

The message of the gospel is all about the cross in our lives. All who are willing to take up the cross, putting to death the sins of the flesh by the practice of faith each day, gain life; those who refuse the cross, lose their lives.

By the freedom Jesus Christ has given us, we choose life over death; we stay near the heart of Jesus in heaven—holy and righteous. So, we live our lives by faith in His words, and His words give us eternal life. We were born of the Spirit with the right to this inheritance in Christ, and we choose to keep what is rightfully ours. We are the called and chosen ones, and we will remain in the righteous One as His Spirit leads us:

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But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

(Romans 5:8-9 NKJV)

### *Jacob's Well*

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus, therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman from Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then would You get this living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." (John 4:6-14 NKJV)

The living water was from the well within Him. Whoever drinks from His Spirit will have the living water in himself also. Only then can we follow Him, imitating the Master to live as He lived by yielding to the Spirit of God as He did.

Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD. Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, *and that* seek him with the whole heart. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.

(Psalm 119:1-3)

*Joan H. Richardson*



Web site: [www.FaithOnEarth.org](http://www.FaithOnEarth.org)

Youtube Channel: [www.tinyurl.com/mejz8dc](http://www.tinyurl.com/mejz8dc)  
or [youtube.com/channel/UCR75MHiRPlékPTLJ2GcXwZg](https://youtube.com/channel/UCR75MHiRPlékPTLJ2GcXwZg)

Contact for speaking: [Joan@FaithOnEarth.org](mailto:Joan@FaithOnEarth.org)

Other books by your sister: *A Thorn in My Flesh*  
*Mysteries of the Ancient Word*

## The UNION

## *Recommended Films*

- The Bible ..... Dir: John Huston/ Genesis
- The Ten Commandments ..... Dir: Cecil B. DeMille
- Follow Me ..... story of Yoni Netanyahu
- The Jesus Film ..... Book of Luke
- The Gospel of John ..... Dir: Philip Saville
- The Hiding Place ..... story of Corrie Ten Boom  
with Jeannette Clift, Julie Harris
- Life Is Beautiful ..... by Roberto Benigni  
holocaust survivor
- Orchestra of Exiles ..... doc/ Israel's first orchestra
- Exodus ..... Dir: Otto Preminger  
novel to film/ regaining the nation
- God's Outlaw ..... story of William Tyndale
- Against All Odds: Israel Survives ..... 9-hour epic  
documentary of miracles
- A Woman Called Golda ..... with Ingrid Bergman
- Judgment at Nuremberg..... with Spencer Tracy,  
Burt Lancaster, all star cast
- Six Days in June ..... doc/ Dir: Levi Eshcol
- Wallenberg A Hero's Story ..... with Richard Chamberlain
- Winston Churchill: Walking with Destiny ..... documentary

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- The Cross: the story of Arthur Blessitt ..... Dir: Matt Crouch
- The Hope : The Rebirth of Israel ..... by CBN Films
- The Boy in the Striped Pajamas ..... a Miramax film
- Israel Inside ..... Israel's contributions to the world
- The Miracle of Israel ..... by Jewish Voice Ministries
- Nicky's Family..... documentary of a righteous gentile
- The Lady in Number Six ..... interview/ oldest holocaust  
survivor at 109 years old
- Forgiving Dr. Mengele ..... interview of survivor twin
- The Danish Solution ..... The rescue of Jews during WWII
- The Impossible Spy ..... A true story/ Israeli hero
- Amish Grace ..... based on true story of forgiveness
- The Case for Christ ..... Lee Strobel/evidence for Jesus
- Expelled ..... Ben Stein investigates evolution
- The Rabbi Who Found Messiah: ..... by WND Films  
The Story of Yitsach Kaduri and His Prophecies
- Above and Beyond ..... Israel's first air force
- My Italian Secret ..... Rescuing the Jews
- A Lamp in the Dark ..... Adullum Films

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## *Resources*

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