



First Light Herald

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A Closer Look

I don't think anyone can be a teacher without traveling a hard road. I believe being a teacher is a calling from God. It requires so much of the person who has this call on his/her life that the teacher needs to be able to tap into something beyond just knowledge. It requires sacrifice, it requires standards, it requires self-judgment on a high level, it requires study, it requires application and it's just plain hard. *James 3:1 My brethren, be not many masters (teachers), knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.*

The old cliché, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink" is as true for the teacher as any other place where it can be applied. A teacher can do all the preparation necessary and present the information in the most precise way and the student can still choose to reject every single bit of the lesson. The teacher can't control whether the student learns or not, he/she can only present the lesson and trust that the student will take the information and use it. Many times the lessons that are presented aren't used until years afterwards and the teacher must be content with his/her efforts in merely sowing the seed of wisdom or knowledge. The teacher can't manipulate or cajole the student into application of the lessons.

Our heavenly Father is the ultimate teacher. He gave us His word and told us to choose it or choose death. It seems like a "no brainer" to choose life and blessing, but folks still choose death and cursing. Why? I am forced to admit, "God only knows".

With the articles or lessons we present for the Body we recognize that not everyone will receive from what is put down on paper. No matter how much we want them to glean and be blessed from the prayer, preparation and planning we put into the newsletters, some will simply not receive. What it all boils down to is that we don't have control; we live in a place and a time where grace prevails. This grace period is limited, but it's here nonetheless. All mankind has the right to be "pro-choice" to coin a phrase we hear in the world today. God has graciously given mankind freewill.

We're told in scriptures "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man" Luke 17:26. It's hard to imagine it, but Noah preached righteousness (or the right way of doing things, God's ways) for 120 years. He was called to be a teacher of the truth for all that time. God was sending his mercy. Imagine had Noah been alive today? With today's technology he could have built that ark in a year rather than 120 years. God was shining His mercy down on the people by sending His word through Noah during his period of time. When it came to the end of God's grace period only Noah, his wife, his sons and their families made it on the ark. It would be a hard thing to teach and preach for all that time and not have a single "taker".



There's always more than meets the eye if you take the time to take a closer look.

Keys of the Kingdom

?? Love never fails. Perfected love casts out fear. Fear is behind everything the adversary is doing. If you find yourself afraid, worried, anxious or concerned guess who's hassling you?

?? Worry is as much a sin as adultery. You have to resist the temptation to worry just like you would resist any sin. Find scriptures dealing with anxious thoughts, worry, dread and any other thing that makes you nervous. Use them like Y'shua/Jesus did in the wilderness.

?? The only power the adversary has is to deceive. If he can deceive you into believing ANYTHING that runs contrary to the word of God he can kill, steal or destroy. Knowing the word is your safety net. Bankers don't study counterfeits, they study the real thing to be able to recognize ALL the fakes.

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A Closer Look continued

2 Tim 4:3-4 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

Men today would rather have someone “sooth” their souls rather than direct them to the salvation of their souls, Y’shua/Jesus. For some reason they will be satisfied with a full belly or a full head than a reborn spirit. Why? Again God only knows.

Gen 6:3 And the LORD said “My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years”.

Did you know there are 120 jubilees in 6000 years of time? A jubilee is a 50 year celebration and a time of restoration and reconciliation ordained by God. It is the ultimate Sabbath. There is much to see in the times, dates, seasons, “moeds” of God. He told us in Genesis that He gave us the sun, the moon and the stars as signs. There is so much spiritual in everything natural! Oh that man would really dive into the word like they dive into a favorite food or activity. Oh yes, and not just dive into the word and not come away having learned something to apply.

2 Tim 3:1-7 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

We have to trust that you will actually read these few verses written by Timothy. We are surrounded by folks who love to study the bible. They love, much as some of the folks that Paul dealt with, to learn some “new thing” just to be learning. They never really apply a single thing in their own lives. They love to look at everyone around them and point out the slivers in everyone else’s lives when they walk around with huge beams in their own.

1 Peter 4:17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

The grace period we live in today is almost up. The fullness of the Gentiles is here now. We can no longer idly stand by and place the blame on anyone but ourselves. It’s time to say to God, “*Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting*”. Ps 139:23-24

Our ark today is a spiritual one. We’re told in the parable of the virgins that as much as half of us will not be ready. We’re warned all through the word what the “last days” will look like. We look at calendars everyday of every week of our lives. When we’re not looking at calendars we’re looking at watches. Time is passing as you read this article. When God’s grace period is up and the jubilees are over those of us who have prepared will step into the ark. It will be too late once we’re in it. All the preparation and sacrifice we made will no longer be available to those who read our words and ignored them. We’ll hear them crying outside, but there will be nothing we can do but watch. All those who ignored sound doctrine will be able to do is go to the sellers and buy oil for themselves.

The virgins that were unprepared had lamps full of oil, but none extra for the trip ahead. The oil is a very crystal clear picture of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit infilling isn’t a one time thing, but a daily thing. Why? It is because we’re in a dark and



A Closer Look continued

death-filled world. We use up the anointing in a thousand different ways we're not even aware of. When we're exposed to a life "sucking" planet such as the one we're on we need the Holy Spirit in a daily dose. The oil burns up while we're waiting for the Lord to call us into the ark.

Take this teacher's words to heart. Stop whatever you're doing. Don't allow the adversary to talk you out of your time of repentance. Don't let the cares of this world prevent you from hearing this warning. Don't let a thousand other distractions steal your opportunity to get right with God today. Don't let the words "Boy is she right on for such and such" and not apply them to yourself. Everyone of us needs to take the time to have God examine our hearts and see if there is in them a teensy tiny thing that is wicked, twisted, unclean, ruinous, destructive, unlovely, impure, yucky, nasty, selfish, filthy, perverse or dark. He **will** find something in every single one of us. Take my word, we're all humans so we all have things that need cleansed from our souls. You could go to the altar everyday of your life and still have room for repentance. Y'shua/Jesus let us in on the fact that God alone is perfect and holy and without sin, but holiness is OUR goal.

Matt 19:17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

1 Peter 1:16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Take the time and do this. I beseech you brethren by the mercies of God that you present yourselves the living sacrifice that you owe to God. He owns us lock, stock and barrel. We are not our own, we are bought with a price. The price being the precious life's blood of His first begotten son. He needs us to be holy so He can walk and talk through us. We need His holiness because we have an adversary who is looking for a victim to kill, steal and destroy.

His Name



Mark 14:34-36 Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch." He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Take this cup away from me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what you will."

Working out in the winter. Think back to when you were a small child of 10-12 years old. You know that your father is the strongest, smartest richest man in the world. He is your hero and without a doubt you know he loves and cares for you more than anyone else ever would. If you were ever in trouble of any kind you only had to shout "daddy" and he would be there to rescue you. Now with all those memories streaming through your mind what would have happened to you if you had called your father by his first name? Your hero, your all sufficient provider and caretaker would have put you over his knee and corrected the problem. Never would you have referred to your father by his first name. If you were like me it came as a total surprise to you that your father's name wasn't daddy. What a shock it was the first time I heard someone call my dad by his name and I realized at that moment that he was a man just like every body else. No longer was he my all-sufficient one, daddy, but had become somehow less in my eyes because I now knew one of his names. When I knew him as daddy, my father was everything I would ever need but when he was reduced to a name he became less.

There is much study going on in the body of Christ these days and one of the subject matters in learning the names of God. We could stop right here and say that that alone should reflect the level of ignorance that the devil would like us to go. We need

His Name continued

only to read the words of Jesus to find what He called His Father. As we read in the scripture above He called out for Abba or in English it would be Father or Daddy. He did so because of the Holy Spirit that made His residence in Jesus heart. Jesus had received the Spirit that gave Him the right to call God His Father. Jesus did not call out Adoni or Jehovah, why? It was because He knew His Daddy, His Father and would never ever call Him by any of His names. He called Him Abba by the Spirit that lived in Him. I dare say that the folks learning to call the creator of the entire universe by His name are lacking that Spirit that Paul tells us about in Romans. **Rom 8:15-16** you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God...

God is the supreme master of everything that He Himself made and there is nothing in existence that He did not make. That mighty God is our Father. **Gal 4:6** *because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"*

Why do we need to know we have heard the Voice of the Master?



1. In Acts 4 Peter and John are found preaching and teaching in the name of Jesus, or really we should understand that this actually means they were preaching and teaching with the authority of God. The religious leaders in Jerusalem got together and decided to throw them into prison for a night. Then the next day scold them both soundly demanding that they never preach or teach with

that authority in Jerusalem again. Or we can understand what they said really meant that Jesus was not the Messiah and you have no authority to do anything here unless we give it to you. Now the leaders that were having all this done did not get saved, at least in these few verses, but the multitude around them were being saved up to 5000 of them. Peter and John full of the Holy Spirit had the wherewithal to say to these leaders "We will not be quiet we are doing what God told us to do and will refuse to do what you tell us to do".

2. Again we find these same two men, Peter and John in Acts 5 preaching and teaching with the authority of God in Jerusalem. You will find after reading Acts 5 that a similar thing had taken place, but this time after Peter told the leaders they were not going to obey them they were going to obey God, the leaders had Peter and John beaten. Afterwards they were put into prison and set then free by an angel. The angel did not set them free to have them run to another country or set up a ministry in compliance with the government of men so they could hide and stay alive and safe. No he set them free and gave them direction from the Spirit of God to go into the very temple and preach and teach the people there about the lives they were living. The life they had found in Christ. We don't see any of these leaders being born-again in this chapter.

3. In Acts 6 we find Stephen along with others, being chosen to be in oversight of the business of taking care of the people in need. Stephen was engaged in a discussion with some folks and because they could not hold their own in knowledge and wisdom they had to resort to telling lies about him. That is when the leaders again in Jerusalem came into the picture and began to stir up the crowd against Stephen. They threw him outside the city gate and stoned him till he was dead. But this time one of these leaders, Saul of Tarsus was in charge of this stoning and something different happened in this account of one man obeying God's direction instead of man's laws against him. Saul was born-again not to long after this stoning. So because of Stephen's determination to obey God rather than man Saul was saved.

Certainly but not finally in this short synopsis we will end by seeing the apostle Paul preaching and teaching in the authority of God because of Jesus throughout the rest of the book of Acts. He is constantly imprisoned and beaten and even once we know of stoned and thrown out of the city left for dead.

What we see here are a few people living in and with the authority of God, the God of ALL creation. In most cases causing those that have heard His voice and have obeyed God rather than man to be put into prison, some were then beaten and most if not all killed when they had accomplished what they were called to do on earth. The ones that killed them were the people that only wanted

Hearing the Voice continued

them to shut up and obey men. We here in America have turned a corner in history and need to realize it is time for the body of Christ to stand tall and declare the wondrous works of our God and His Christ in love. Yes even at the cost of our very lives. How many of you men will not speak for your Christ at work because it is against your employers rules? Those are not God's rules they are men's. Will you choose to rise up to be a vessel of honor in these last days? It is your choice!

Good News



Snezhana writes in Russian.

Yes, you read it here folks we have good news to tell you. I know that real good news is rare these days so we want to share it with you whenever we can.

Having resources is a true effect of the blessing on our lives. Since the day that Jeff was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to hunger for the Voice of God we've seen prosperity make its way into our lives. At first it was slow, but then as we sowed the word into our hearts things began to accelerate. Even today our home is overrun with bibles and other resources that we are able to sow into the kingdom.

Last week we mailed out four Igbo bibles for approval by Chima in Nigeria. We also sent eight English bibles to fill the box. The Igbo bibles are for the pastors in Chima's territory and we trust that once they are reviewed and found acceptable we will be continually sending them into Nigeria! We actually found some that were \$13.00! The price keeps dropping and we

thank you for your prayers of agreement. We started at \$24.00 so that's a considerable discount. They were hardbound rather than the paperback English bibles we're mailing in.

We finally received the children's Russian bibles story books. We also received a case of "wrong" Russian bibles. We had ordered the Illustrated Russian bibles, but they mistakenly sent regular bibles. We told them we would NOT be returning them, but asked them to go ahead and send the illustrated ones as well. Hey, one can not have too many bibles.

We prepared 10 teaching books and half a case of Illustrated Russian Bibles to go into Uzbekistan. Snezhana Noll (we call her Ana) is filling the rest of the box with little things for the children. One of our future projects is to bless the children with a box of fun things that one doesn't see in Uzbekistan. If you'd like to be involved with this upcoming project, please let us know.

We also purchased a large print Russian bible for the host of our Bible study. She came up to me at the last meeting and whispered that she was 77 and couldn't read her bible. I can see her face now when I think of how she'll react to her very own large print bible! Rachel is a tiny sweet Russian woman. She has lived in Midland for 17 years with her brother. He has lived in the US for close to 50 years. They were extracted during the "Open Door" days of Russia. We are so blessed to have them here in Texas. Rachel's brother was a bible teacher for many years. He has a sparkle in his eyes and will come tell me spiritual things on the shy. What a blessing it is to be able to partake in the faith of those who know what it is to have a real drought and famine such as we read in Amos 8:11. It's coming to America so we need to prepare ourselves.



Some of the books going into Uzbekistan.

With the shipment of the Large Print Russian bible came a catalog with over 300 Russian bible resources including the New Testament on tape and so many resources I can't even list them here.

Last but not least I purchased a Chinese/English bible at the request of a friend in Midland. She and her husband are Gideons, but don't have access to this particular bible. I went on a hunt and purchased four bibles that weren't what we needed, but finally found the perfect bible. Gwen presented the bible to her Chinese Sister in the Lord with some remarkable results. She kissed her new bible, bowed to it and squealed with delight. She had been believing for one for quite some time. Again, her bible was such a blessing. Let us NEVER take our bibles for granted. Amos 8:11 is coming to America.

We want to thank you for helping us reach out beyond ourselves. We need to be able to keep sowing the word to those who don't have it. We are supposed to go into ALL the world and shipping bibles is one small way of accomplishing this. We trust that eventually we will carry the bibles to their destinations, but until that time we are thrilled to have access via the Internet to folks who are brave enough to ask for them!

Our Continuing Prayer Needs



Sometimes you need a helping hand.

We ask for your prayers for the following needs. We continue to stand for the signs of an apostle to continue to be manifest in Jeff's life. *2 Cor 12:12 Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.* There are so many traditions in the organized church that says "all the apostles died". Y'shua/Jesus set up his authority before he ascended into heaven. In Ephesians Paul teaches that he gave some apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers for the perfecting of the saints, the work of the ministry, to edify the Body. This was all supposed to continue **until** we **ALL** came into the unity of the faith. Here he speaks of when the Hebrew believers in full come to realize that Y'shua/Jesus is really Lord, Messiah and King. Folks that event hasn't happened yet, so we should still have apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. The adversary left the evangelist, pastor and teacher alone because he knew he'd taken the foundation of the apostle and prophet out from under them. He knew they would eventually fall without the order and power of the gifts of the apostle and prophet. This is one "tradition of man" that has truly made the word of God of no effect in the Body. We are confident that once this dead tradition is pulled down and the power in the gift of the apostle and prophet are accepted in full, we will see the same miracles we saw in the first century believers.

Eph 4:9-14 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

Also, as the world learns about what is being preached they are going to become more and more aggressive. As will the false religious system that is firmly established in the world today. We know that we are becoming bolder and bolder to proclaim the unadulterated truth of God's word and that means there will be signs following. We pray for level headedness, for strength of character, for a holier walk, and the ability to stand unmoved by fear or flattery.

Acts 4:29-30 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Sad News

We want to thank those of you who were praying for Pamela Meiko in San Angelo. Pamela went on to be with the Lord. Her good fight of faith on this side of heaven is over. Please continue to pray for her husband, children and family members as they go on without her. We look forward to seeing her on the other side. Heaven is after all the goal!

Rekindled



You be the fire starter!

I remember the sweetness of when I was first born again. It seemed as if the whole world was made of puffy clouds and rainbows. I was so zealous that I was a tad bit overbearing, but I did have zeal and it was exciting. As time progressed being a believer became "every day" and it soon was a thing that I let become average. That was almost 25 years ago and I've learned about "stirring the gift up" within myself. It's something I do for myself on a regular basis. Sometimes it happens just by intense study of the word, other times it happens when I sing and play music to the Lord. However it may happen I have to **make** it happen, it rarely happens without my efforts. My flesh has a tendency to be pulled to the earth and die. It's always trying to push daisies before its time. I have to keep my spirit man in dominion over my flesh man. One of my favorite teachings that Jeff does is about Esau and Jacob entitled, "The Elder Serves the Younger". My "old man" of flesh has to serve my "new creation" of the spirit. I have to keep my old flesh on the cross and allow my eternal spirit man to rule over the old desires.

At any rate we need to keep ourselves fired up. We are supposed to be the match that lights the dead wicks of all the lost folks. If we aren't on fire we have nothing to offer to the lost.

This past week we were exposed to believers from Belarus, Russia. They live under the constant persecution by the last communist government left in Russia. In fact every week when they try to congregare, the police in their town harass them and threaten them. Their work is always done in the face of opposition and oppression. Yet, in all the persecution and oppression they are so on fire it's contagious. Because of their fiery witness we were rekindled. We have it easy for now in America, but if you read your bible you know that it's just a matter of time before we too experience similar things.

In Canada they have already passed laws against Christianity. Unless you are already in the "organized recognized church" you

Rekindled continued

have no rights. In China Christians are persecuted and killed every day. Christians are killed in Cuba and no one cries out. Indonesia has more than its share of martyrs for the Cross.

In Queen Esther's time the evil ones had infiltrated the kingdom of her husband Ahasuerus. Esther's uncle Mordecai knew that God had given Esther her beauty for a godly purpose. Her beauty would win the king's heart and eventually save Israel. Esther was put in a really hard place, she was set in the place of queen to save a nation and assure the lineage of our Lord, Yeshua. She couldn't just save herself by staying quiet. She had to stand up (in the face of the fear of death) before her king and intercede for her people. Her uncle Mordecai knew that Esther would be frightened at the idea of facing the wrath of the king. His words to her were: Est 4:13 *"Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews"*.

I shared that to remind each of us that "For such a time as this" are we created, called and chosen to share the gospel of Yeshua/Jesus to the lost. We can't stay silent and remain safe. Like Esther we need to fast what we think is our necessary food and eat the

What Is Hypocrisy?



NT:5272

hupokrisis (hoop-ok'-ree-sis); from NT:5271; acting under a **feigned** part, i.e. (figuratively) **deceit** ("hypocrisy"):

NT:5271

hupokrinomai (hoop-ok-rin'-om-ahēe); middle voice from NT:5259 and NT:2919; **to decide (speak or act) under a false part**, i.e. (figuratively) dissemble (**pretend**):

KJV - **feign**

(Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright (c) 1994, Biblesoft and International Bible Translators, Inc.)

No pretending in the Kingdom

It's hard to understand, but there are people out there who pretend to be believers and pretend to be righteous. It could be because it's easier than giving up one's life to do things God's ways. It could be because they see the prosperity of true believers and think that they can be "faux" Christians and reap the benefits without the work.

There are times when we act like hypocrites. We act like we're walking in the love of God, but as soon as we're away from other believers we backbite, gossip and complain. The silly thing about hypocrisy is that the one who sees all and knows all sees everything we're saying and doing. There really is no place to hide from Him. Abba Father declared in: "Deut 30:19 *I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.*" God has a recording device setup to make a record of everything we say and we do. There is no "mocking" Him, what we sow we will most definitely reap. It would be nice if we could have selective crop failure, but that isn't going to happen. We can of course ask for His mercy. We're told "Lam 3:22-23 *It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are **new every morning**: great is thy faithfulness.*" We all sow things we'd rather not reap. So if you've acted like a believer rather than been one, run, don't walk to the throne room and get the mercy you need! Confess your hypocrisy and get it erased from God's recorder (heaven and earth).

Faith isn't pretending it's believing the voice of the Father and doing what He says. There is no second way to God; it must be done by faith. Faith always comes when you are hearing. Hearing always comes from the Word of God.

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A newPOV.

Jeff and Cerise's March 2005 Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Prayer Day	Thu	Fri	Sabbath
Odessa meetings call Becky at: 367-0873 after 6	Andrews Meetings call Margie at: 523-9822	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Odessa Meeting 18 Antebellum 7-9PM	10 Andrews Meeting 1109 NW 12th Pl 7-9PM	11 Hobbs Meeting Dr. Dean's office 7-9PM	12 Roswell Meeting 2401 N. Grand 7-9PM
13 Jeff heads to Taos from the 13th to the 22nd	14 Cerise will be in Ruidoso working on a book	15 With Van Burkes and ministering to folks	16 in this area.	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Odessa Meeting 10 Louisiana Cove 7-9PM	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Hobbs Meetings call Welters at 432-550-7642	Roswell Meetings call Gloria at: 625-1525