

First Light Herald

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Get a cup of something yummy and enjoy this month's FLH on us.

Confirmation

We all go through times when we aren't sure about what God wants us to do. None of us are free from the doubt attacks of the adversary and his cohorts. For those times we ask God for confirmation, but only after we step out and begin the process of doing by faith what we believe God is asking. Recently I had such a case and God's sense of humor shined through it all as He confirmed what I was stepping out to do.

It's rather like stepping out of the boat that Peter stepped out of. He said, "Lord if it is you, bid me come". Most of us would NEVER step out of the security and comfort of a boat in preference to that of unstable waters. Again, I'm brought back to scriptures when it comes to a confirming word. Before I share my story I will preface it with a story of the apostles and how they prayed for confirmation.

It began in the fourth chapter of the book of Acts. Peter and John have just ministered healing to the man at the Gate Beautiful. The religious leaders of their time are infuriated. They can't really kill these men because of the miracle and the response of the people, but they can threaten them so they do. Peter and John know what they have to do, but they also know the danger associated with what they must continue to do. So they pray.

Acts{4:29} And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, {4:30} By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders

may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

It's clear they have seen and heard the threatenings of the religious Pharisees. They know their ability to have them locked up and even killed. Do they want these men destroyed by God in return? No, they merely ask God to grant them boldness to KEEP doing what they have been doing. They want God to continue to stretch forth His hand and heal and to continue the signs and wonders done in the name of the Lord, Yeshua/Jesus.

So, now for my story. It isn't so grandiose, but I needed the same sort of confirmation that they needed. When you step out to do the will of God you will be met with opposition. My steps were no different than the apostles of the Lamb.

Before and during my trip to Belarus I was inspired to use my old clowning "skills" again. I had used them for the world and for my own benefit many years earlier, but had been shown just how effective clowning could be for evangelism. So I stepped out and began putting together a costume and some props. I also began researching how to use what I knew for a Russian speaking audience. The great majority of what I knew wouldn't translate well into a foreign language because it was so closely wrapped around the English language, but God gave me a couple of things that would work. I only clowned once in Belarus, but watched other clowns and began to once again

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Special points of interest:

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??Why don't we charge? Freely we've received so freely we distribute.

??If you have a need, let us know. We can't help if we don't know. Hugs, J & C

Confirmation

“think like a clown”. When I returned to America I grew more determined to begin clowning again. It is a great way to get folks to drop their guard and listen. It’s like fishing for children with a huge box of chocolate.

I filled a suitcase with props and really worked to develop a character. I purchased fabric to enhance my character with the “perfect” costume. As I did the reality of “no place to clown” dawned on me. My thoughts were wrapped up in finding a place to use my gift. I saw a sign on a local Nazarene church for their upcoming vacation bible school and thought seriously about offering to clown for their services. I went back to my preparations without calling the church, but shared my thoughts with Jeff. He thought it was a great idea and so off I went to begin my sewing. It was a Saturday morning and I was stalling at the whole thing having my doubts once again as to whether I had heard God or not. You see, back when I clowned professionally (for money that is) a well meaning woman convinced me that clowning was a waste of my God given talents so I quit.

“Confirmation is a good thing, but we don’t usually get it until we get out of the boat and walk by faith.”

So there I was with a suitcase full of clown stuff, a character in the infancy of being developed, a table full of bright fabric and no confidence in my “hearing” God. With that I hear Jeff come up on the porch and open the front door. He motioned me to come outside. I went to the front door and saw two men standing out on our walkway. I realized I was grungy and shrugged “Oh well”. The two men were from the little southern Baptist Church down the way. They were visiting the folks of Gardendale to invite their children to Vacation Bible School and their theme was “The Big Top”. They would



Imogene “Chilly” Pepper

love it if I’d come clown. I shook my head with disbelief. So there I was with all the confirmation I needed. I told them I was just talking to God about how silly He must think I am for wanting to clown for Him. I offered my services and gave them my card. The pastor gave me his information along with his cell number.

In two weeks time I found myself standing outside of an unfamiliar church, dressed like a wacked out West Texas belle with absolutely NO TASTE. My clown name is Imogene “Chilly” Pepper and I was about to make my clowning debut. The kids took to me immediately and the adults watched me with scrutiny. Before the week is over I lead seven kids to the Lord and also led them in the prayer to receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Jeff and I gave the children in the fourth and fifth grade class bibles (15) and I had the time of my life. While I taught missions and fell in love with 36 kids from Gardendale Jeff stayed in the kitchen and taught the adult workers. God had opened a door that would NEVER have been open to us otherwise. During breaks I went into the kitchen to cool off and get a drink and Jeff continued to share the word. In the middle of one of my breaks I learned one woman has suffered from “irritable bowel syndrome” for years. I told her I would bring my oil and minister healing to her. That evening she was healed and I was more convinced than ever that I HAD heard God.

Confirmation is a good thing, but we don’t usually get it until we get out of the boat and walk by faith. You won’t get the confirmation sitting on your sofa or laying in bed. Get out and walk on the water!

Communication, a Two Way Thing

Many believers stop short of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit and are therefore cheated of one of the most important gifts from God. If it’s from God and God only gives us good and perfect gifts, why would anyone stop short of receiving this great gift? (James 1:17) Many people reject the baptism of the Holy Spirit because they have been lied to and told some stupid thing or been witness to the misuse of the gift.

God isn’t the mean ogre that He’s been

painting out to be. He’s a good Father and He wants good things for His children. We think we’re the good ones and God is standing around with a huge mallet just looking for someone to screw up so He can thump him. He doesn’t blow houses down in storms, He taught us through Yeshua/Jesus that we’re supposed to speak to the storms and make them stop. He doesn’t give our children cancer; we’re supposed to lay hands on those with such sicknesses and minister healing via the Holy Spirit. God gets a bad rap because of stupid peo-



Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

ple. I've heard folks say, "If God is so good why does he let children die of cancer?" God didn't bring the cancer on, Adam did. Sure God created Adam, but He also told Him NOT to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. As soon as he did he brought death and sickness on the planet. Man screwed up, not God. God knew Adam would do what he did. God wasn't taken by surprise. He knew Adam would sin, but He also provided a way of escape so that Adam wouldn't be stuck in his state of death. God has still given Adam the choice to follow Him or to go some other way. God isn't a control freak. He is a faith or trust God and He wants His children to freely choose His way. He never forces His children to do things "His way". Sadly, the only other way is the wrong way.

Proverbs tells us that there is a way that seems right to a man, but the end thereof is death. Many are taking that way that seems right.



Can you hear me now?
God

So let's go back to the baptism in the Holy Spirit? What it boils down to is that many folks are afraid of speaking in an unknown tongue. Why? Because it is unknown and what they don't KNOW scares them. Man has grown accustomed to eating from the tree of knowledge. Hearing from God requires action. It's easier for us to take the way that seems right rather than trusting God (who knows everything) in favor of what we can figure out. Let's face it folks, we love knowledge. We love being "know it alls". We love being right in our own sight. We love logic and making sense of things in favor of trusting God. We have created schools to know more. We exalt those who achieve high levels of knowledge. We are jealous of the really smart people and make fun of those who trust God. We're in a mess. All the knowledge we could possibly obtain brings us no more happiness than some material object. As soon as we've obtained knowledge or obtained some thing, we're dissatisfied and want something new.

Ok, so we're stupid and in a mess. God knew we'd be so stupid. Isaiah 28:11 tells us that He knew that we'd reject the stammering lips and other tongues He would use to teach us. When we are praying in tongues God speaks to our spirits via His Holy Spirit. (Rom. 8:27) He teaches us mysteries when we pray in the Spirit (1 Cor. 15:2) Paul prayed that we would ALL speak in tongues, but men don't like to give up control of their tongues for one mo-

ment. (1 Cor. 14:5) Paul was one of the greatest Apostles and he spoke in tongues. This was a man who was very knowledgeable in the Torah and the prophets. He knew the word, but he didn't trust or use his knowledge without first hearing from God via His Spirit. He counted all he knew dung (Phil 3:8). He prayed in the spirit and he prayed with his understanding of the Torah and the prophets.



Do you have your spirit tuned in?

The serpent beguiled Eve and convinced her she needed knowledge rather than to live by faith or trust in God. She who was made in the image and likeness of God needed to obtain knowledge according to the serpent. The moment she bit into the forbidden fruit of knowledge of good and evil, she lost the glory of being a faith creature and dropped to the level of a lying devil. She exalted her place, her "throne" as a daughter of the most high and wife of the first man and therefore dropped her authority. She had been tricked but there was still time. Adam could have dealt with the serpent and then restored his wife; instead he took the same wrong turn she took only he took it with open eyes. He knew the truth and ate that fruit anyway.

Many will one day stand before God and give account for why they refused His gift of His Son. Many others will give account for the things He gave that were consumed on lusts. Still others will give account for what they did with His precious Holy Spirit. In the creation He breathed the Holy Spirit into His man Adam. When Adam sinned the Holy Spirit left him. Throughout the Old Testament we see the Holy Spirit coming down on men, but never sealed in them. When Yeshua/Jesus left the Holy Spirit came down on men and sealed them. There was a sign that God was now living in men again just like the day

"We are jealous of the really smart people and make fun of those who trust God."

when He breathed His precious Spirit into Adam, they spoke in the language of the Spirit. They were known as they knew. The sort of knowledge we see here was and is an intimacy that goes beyond surface or exterior knowledge. The very essence of God is imparted and infused in man.

Communication.....continued

If you feel powerless and separate from God I would say you may never be indwelt by God by His Spirit or you've forgotten the power of praying in the spirit. If you would like to have this gift let us know. Come to one of our meetings and allow us to minister the infilling of the

Holy Spirit. If you've laid down this gift in the course of your life, pick it back up and allow God to teach you. Communication should be Spirit to spirit. There is nothing as sweet as the sweet communion of God directly to His children.

Receiving the Foundation

We're in the last days. Therefore we need to recognize the places in the scriptures that deal with the last days and also recognize the ministry Yeshua/Jesus intended for the Body in the last days. We're told that he never spoke his own words or did his own thing, but only spoke and did what the Father told him to do and speak. With that premise we need to know and obey the orders he left us and use the tools that he supplied us with to do the job that he gave us. *"Luke 19:13 Occupy till I come."* Many would rather do their own thing and go their own way, but that way leads to death. The wisest man on the planet told us in two places:

Prov 14:12 & 16:25 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

In religious circles the Body of Christ along with anyone the least bit religious is dumped into a pile known as the "church". Well, let the religious folks have the word church and all its pomp and circumstance and powerlessness. We are the Body of the Anointed One and he was/is/shall always be Anointed by the Holy Spirit of God. That is what we are supposed to be, his Body. When Yeshua/Jesus was on the planet HE set up the kingdom the way the Father prescribed because HE was given headship or all authority in heaven and on the earth. God sent him to destroy the works of the adversary and Yeshua/Jesus gave us a pattern of how to do so. He heard the Father by the Spirit (of Compassion or Love) and did what he heard. He laid hands on the sick and they recovered. He cast out devils (1/3 of his ministry was casting out devils). He taught and preached at and to the people. He set up a government with rank and order. Lots of folks balk at this, but tell me that one person in the Body

messed with Peter after Ananias and Saphira dropped dead and I'll call you mistaken. They understood authority and the order of God. He gave gifts to men, the gifts were Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors all being teachers of their individual anointings. In the beginning we see great things in the Body. We see Yeshua/Jesus' ministry continuing as he left it. Praise God someone wrote it down and called it what it was, a NEW COVENANT or TESTAMENT.

It didn't take long for corruption and the love of money to set in and men started building stone temples to replace the temples of the Holy Spirit. They demanded that men sit in these temples and stop ministering using the name of Yahowhua. They tried that earlier, but the apostles of the Lamb were not about to quit using that name or his anointing. It was their very essence to use the name.

Prov 14:12 & 16:25 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Today we are again seeing all the gifts begin to step out of the trash left by lying religious men who loved money more than God. Godly prosperity is not about controlling people or their money, it's about seeking that kingdom Yeshua set up and allowing the stuff you need and want to follow. It's about RIGHTEOUSNESS, JOY AND PEACE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT. It's about caring for the widows, the orphans and the strangers in the land. Sure God is fully aware that this world costs money, but money is the lowest power on this planet. Money is to be used to further God's NEW covenant upon the earth. His new one is unbreakable unless faith is removed.



Building your house on this? Not a good idea.

Have you ever seen a house built without a foundation? Even our mobile home has a steel frame and sits on a foundation made of

concrete blocks. Without the frame and blocks we'd have more creaking than the knees of Methuselah. The Body of Christ has bones and those bones are the apostles and the prophets. Sure there were 12 apostles of the Lamb (There were also more apostles during and after Yeshua. Consider Paul or the woman apostle Junias.) We have the Old Testament prophets, but a house always has to have a foundation. (Ephesians 2:19-20) Funny thing, but why is it that the same folks who say that apostles and prophets have passed away and tongues and miracles have passed away forget that the same place that mentions apostles and prophets as gifts mentions evangelists, pastors and teachers as gifts. Why only get rid of 2/5 of the gifts? Why pick out these two gifts and get rid of them? Is it because the apostle restores order, the prophet can see the future

killed, he laid his life down. I'm sure old wormy was a tad surprised when the chains he had on the Lord fell to the floor of hell and HE destroyed the gates. I'm sure he was even more flabbergasted when the Lord took the keys of death, hell and the grave out of his hands and restored everything that he'd stolen from man and God.



You don't really want these gifts do you? Let's just leave these gifts alone.

I'm sure old wormy was a tad surprised when the chains he had on the Lord fell to the floor of hell and HE destroyed the gates.

and they are the foundation? I seem to remember Yeshua/Jesus teaching that a house built on the foundation of what HE said would endure the storms, but a house without a foundation or built on anything but HIS words would fall flat.

The spirit of antichrist is busy at work these days, just as it was in the days of our Savior. It seems that they tried to get rid of the Cornerstone back when HE walked the planet. That didn't work so they went after the foundation, the apostles and the prophets. I'm just glad that His word is the same yesterday, today and forever. He is God's Torah made flesh. He was manifested to destroy the works of the adversary and he said, "It is finished". I know satan thought he'd succeeded when the Lord died, but he wasn't

I am glad I learned early to ask questions and not believe everything I was told. For some reason I knew as a youngster that the words of Yeshua/Jesus were written in eternity. If I based what I knew on what he said and nothing else, I'd be ok. It mattered little what anyone around me believed. It mattered even less that I was too weak to stand when temptation came and knocked me on my rear. The work was done from the foundation of time. So as the apostles for this time step out to reestablish the foundation under the household of faith, we can all smile. God is truly working in us both to will and to do of HIS good pleasure. The gates of hell are off their hinges and the Gates of Hell (the paganized church) are powerless against the Anointed One and His Anointing by the Holy Spirit. We hear His voice and another we will NOT follow. We shall submit to the office of the apostles and prophets. Yeshua is the Apostle and Great High Priest and HE and HE alone determines what is happening on the planet today. If the Body in heaven has apostles, the Body here on earth has them as well. I'd think twice about sitting under someone who isn't submitted to the apostles and prophets. Selah.

Porter the Door of the House

Mark 13:34-37

For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, which left his "house", and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his "work", and commanded the "porter" to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.



Who are you keeping out?

Years ago when the Lord began to reveal this to me it was like most everything else He was showing me, I thought everyone already knew and understood this and thought that I was way behind. It wasn't until I began talking with folks three years ago that I found out not that there weren't many who knew what the ministry of the "porter" was in their lives. Not many had a revelation of the "house" and almost no one un-

derstood what their particular “work” was. Let me say first that we have a perfect Father! He is good in all areas and everything that comes from Him is good. His word is the same, it is good in all areas. His word holds the secrets of all existence and there is nothing hidden in it that will not be made manifest. **Mark 4:22** *For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad.* I had heard this scripture for years and used it in the context that everything you have done or are doing will one day be know by all. That is not what Jesus is saying here. He is letting us know that there are things hidden in His word and we must put effort into finding them. When we do find them, His Spirit gives revelation of those things you found hidden in His word. His word is good. If we walk around in fear of everyone finding out about our wrongdoings, we will do nothing because of that fear. You and I find our “work” hidden in the word of God and must put effort into finding it. If you are one that all your lifetime has known there is “work” for you in the kingdom of God and are not sure you are doing that “work”, begin looking into His word and He will reveal to you your “work”. Look at Mark 13 again: Jesus said that He left His “house” (His earthly body) gave authority to His servants (the body of Christ being us) and gave them their “work” (establish the will of God in the earth as it is in heaven **Matt. 6:10**). Now when we apply that individually we have to see that each one of us has been given authority to “work” for His will to be done in the earth. All we have to do is find what our “work” is and do it...right? Well what’s missing in this equation? The “porter” of the “house”. The “house” has been given the authority to do the “work” to establish His will in the earth. Your individual flesh and blood body is that “house”. Your “house” has a door that needs to be “portered”. You must porter one door not several, only one! Jesus tells the porter of the door to watch for something in Mark 13...for what? For the Master of the “house”.

Let me show you an astounding truth I believe the body of Christ is just now coming into. We know from the word of God that Jesus is the word of God. While He was here on the earth in His flesh and blood body He was the word made flesh. He knew by revelation that He had been given “work” to do so that God’s will could be established in the earth. He was the only person in the earth that could accomplish His “work”. He finished His “work”



and left His “house”. Now He is seated in heavenly places at the right hand of the Father. He is still the word of God, always will be the word of God. Do you agree that He is the word of God? Good! Jesus commanded the “porter” to watch for Him and men have turned that into a doctrine of waiting for Him. So what does most of the “house” do? Sit and wait! They don’t search out the word diligently to find out what He really said. In John 10 Jesus gives us some insight into more of this same subject;

John 10:1-3 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that enters not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that enters in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter opens;*

The “porter” opens the door of the “house” to Jesus, the word of God to come in and reveal the “work” as well as how to accomplish that “work”. He, the word of God, has everything that pertains to life and godliness and His desire is for all of His servants to let Him show them how to do the word in each individual person’s life. Why? To simply establish His will in the earth and when we are finished He comes back to the earth for us!

So the obvious necessity is to find out who the “porter” is. **2 Cor. 5:17** *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.* That new creature is the born again person God Himself has made us. The new creation in Christ Jesus that you and I are is the “porter” of the door of our “house”. Our “house” is natural of the earth, but our “porter” is spiritual; made up of God’s life and designed to hear Him and let Him in when He knocks on the door. We choose to open the door to truth or we choose to keep the door closed to truth because of our traditional understanding of His word. Those traditions usually keep us sick, powerless and not able to do the “work” we know we are supposed to be doing. So we choose to sit and wait based on powerless teaching that has entered into our house some other way. Jesus told us that anyone entering our “house” any other way than through the door is a thief and a robber.

Everything we do here in the earth for God is by faith.

Everything we do here in the earth for the devil is by fear. Faith believes God will do what He says in His word, and fear believes God will not do what He says in His word. It really is that simple. The only way to please God is by faith. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing comes by the word of God. IF we don't "porter" the door to our "House" and open it to the word that comes from God alone, faith cannot come. **Heb 3:6** *But Christ as a son over his own "house"; whose "house" are we.* **Gal 6:10** *As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the "household" of faith.* We are the "porter" to the "house" we live in; we are the "porter" to the "house" He lives in, the "household" of faith. That is a big responsibility when we begin to realize

that we could be keeping God out of His own "house" because we don't recognize Him when He comes knocking. So in capsule form; Jesus left His earthly body and gave authority to you and me to walk in the earth in the "house" of God. We are supposed to be watching or "portering" the door so He can come in and show us the "work" He needs done. That's to be done first individually. When we begin to receive the revelation of the whole "household" we can begin to see the importance of the "work" of the "porter" establishing God's will in



Portering your doors?

Increase



Some plant, some water, but God gives the increase.

the earth.

We were created to increase. We were not meant to be stagnant in any area of our lives. The only way we can guarantee increase is to follow the pattern left by the Lord. He was the Word made flesh, so let's use the word to find our way to increase. Here are some scriptures for you to pray so you too can increase:

Matt 6:33 *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.* (The kingdom is righteousness, joy and peace in the Holy Spirit. You must know that you have been MADE the righteousness of God in Christ/Messiah Jesus/Yeshua. You must walk in that righteousness and then you will have good works as well. The good works don't bring you things, but acknowledging what Yeshua/Jesus did for you does. Keep him and his cross in your sight. Keep God and His will in your sight and the stuff will follow. Never go after the stuff, keep your back to the stuff. Remember Lot's wife?)

Prov 13:23 *Much food is in the tillage of the poor.* (Invest in someone you know that is poor after you've given God His tithe.)

Mal 3:8-9 *Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me.* (You have to start with the tithe. Don't break it up either. How does the man of God know you're tithing if

you give partial tithes. The tithe isn't something you want to mess with as it assures the blessing. Consider Cain and also Ananias and Saphira. The apostle is the Only one that is supposed to break up or distribute the tithe. Acts 4:35)

Prov 19:17 *He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.* (Again, the poor is the best place to sow your extra seed after the tithe. You must remember God with your part of the covenant, but you must sow seed in order to multiply. Your tithe isn't seed.)

2 Cor 9:10 *Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness.* (Seed must go in the ground in order for it to produce. You want to find good ground. Oh, and don't forget to pray before your sow. Thank God for the increase of the fruits of your righteousness. Thanksgiving is the highest form of praise and God promises to inhabit the praises of His people. We all need more of the presence of God.)

Gen 1:28 *And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.* (Remember that God was speaking to Yeshua/Jesus through the first Adam. He was telling his son that He wanted him to be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth. He was telling him to go forth and destroy the works of the adversary. He was, is and shall be victorious over the enemy, we must act as his Body. Go increase.....Jeff & Cerise Welter

Jeff & Cerise Welter

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Jeff & Cerise's September 2005
 Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sabbath
Call for meeting times and info. 432-550-7642	Call for prayer, we really do pray.	Email for any reason.	OD=Odessa call for directions.	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Odessa #18 Antebellum 7-9PM	15 Andrews 1109 NW 12th Pl. 7-9PM	16 Hobbs Doc Dean's office 7-9PM	17 Roswell 2401 N. Grand 2-4PM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Rivers of Living Waters 10:00 AM OD	26	27	28 Odessa #10 Louisiana Cove 7-9PM	29	30	Oct. 1st