

Lord of Life Ministries

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“Humility”

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Several months ago the Lord said that He wants to bring man into a complete rest in Him to where we trust in Him, rely on Him, and depend on Him. Man does not enter that rest unless He mixes the word and faith together, because you have to apply both of them together **Hebrews 4:9-10**, There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. ¹⁰ For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

The Lord is bringing the soul into a rest. The soul has a lot of thoughts that take you out of the peace and joy in your mind.

One thing that the Lord has been speaking about is **humility and humbleness**. We know that anyone who has had the water baptism in the Melchisedek order goes through the fire. We continue going through the fire because God is going to take you to a place of purity. You are that living sacrifice. This sacrifice is going to be a burnt sacrifice. I don't want to scare you, but God is a consuming fire. The beautiful part about it is, in order to have life, there has to be death. It all works together, the cross and resurrection. The more you allow Christ to consume things in your soul, the more resurrection power

you have flowing out of you. Those who have had the water baptism have the understanding that you go through a wilderness for a period of time or a season. Then God takes you out of the wilderness. The purpose of the wilderness is to humble and test you. It is a process that God has to put us all through. **Mat. 3:16** And Jesus, when he was baptized, went straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him. **Mat. 4:1** says, and then was Jesus led of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

Have you ever seen a wild horse that has been out in the field? We have been like that wild horse. We were out in the world where we had many hurts, pains, grief, sorrows, and many ups and downs. Then God got hold of our lives and began to reveal His love. We saw that He is a loving Father and He really does care.

You cannot ride a wild horse until you break him. God knows how to ride a horse, and the Lord knows how to ride you and me. In the natural, the only way you can break a horse is by riding him. He will always try to throw you off his back. A wild

horse does not like for you to ride him because he has been free out in the field, totally in control of doing whatever he wanted to. Suddenly the master comes and wants to get hold of this horse. This is the way God is. God is your Master. He gets hold of you, like the horse. He has to put you through several processes of breaking. We are not completely broken when we first start out in God. There is always something that we do not want to completely surrender to Christ. We don't want Him to have total charge and control.

If you get on a wild horse and start riding him, the first thing he is going to do is buck you off. That horse still has an ego, pride and control. He does not want someone to ride his back or have anything or anyone to be in control of him. This is the way man is.

God knows how we are. He knows our makeup inside and out. He knows how many more ego thoughts each and every person still has. This is not a day for anyone to have a lot of ego and pride, because we are in the day of the Lord. In the day of the Lord, the Word says, that every high and lofty thing shall be made low

(See Isaiah 2:11) This is why God is working on everyone's mind. God is dealing with the way you are thinking. Every thought that exalts itself against the Christ, God begins to let you see that so He can consume it, and you can bring it to the obedience of Christ **2 Cor 10:5, Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;** It takes willingness for us to go through the process and allow God to begin to break us. Thank God that He doesn't break us quickly, but He does it gradually. If He did it extremely fast, it would kill us. He is a gentle God and a loving Father. He knows what each individual has to go through to be broken. He brings us to a place where there is no more bucking, and there is no more taking charge of one's life again. God did this to Israel. After He delivered them out of bondage of Egypt and brought them out of the world, He put them in a situation where they didn't have any food.

This is what God will do to us. He will put us in a situation where we need Him. If you have everything, you don't need Him. When you are lacking in something, that's when you need Him. That's when you have to talk with Him and pray.

I would go down and minister at Lorton prison, and they would get so blessed by God. The Lord would just bless them, and then I would not see them for two or three weeks, and they would forget them. This is what people

do. They start talking to God, and He starts blessing them. Then they have this little thought, 'I don't need you today. God, I don't need to talk to you because everything is going so smooth. So this is how we start out with God.

When we begin walking with God, we get into a relationship with Him and begin to experience Him. Then the blessing of the Lord is upon us. We think everything is going smoothly, and we start thinking we don't need God. Then God has to allow something to happen to humble us so that we will come back to Him and to realize that He wants a union and a love affair with us every day, and in control of our lives.

What is the kingdom of God? **Rom. 14:17 says, For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.** The kingdom of God is within you, and there is a king. The king is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. He wants to be Lord. He is the king of the kingdom. He should be the king of your life and the ruler of all your decisions. He wants to be in the midst of everything you do. He wants to be in all your plans. He wants to be your king and sit on your throne. He wants to make His decisions through you.

Why does God want to control us? Because He would want to be seen. He wants to manifest Himself to the world. How can He manifest Himself to the world if we are trying to be in charge all the time? He wants to have such a union with us that He is

manifesting His life through us. He wants to express His power, His glory and His nature to mankind. God is looking for a people who will allow Him to break them and be willing to pay the price. It is a price that you pay, and the price that you pay is no price. When God is finished with you, you will see that it was not a price that you paid. You actually came into life. You came into peace and joy. You came into something that you had been searching for all your life. Then it is not a price that you paid. You do lose your life. You lose your soul, but you gain His life. That's what Jesus said. He said if you hold onto your soul, you will lose it. **Mt. 16:25-26 says, for whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.**

²⁶ **For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul** We have God in our house and we say, "God, you can have this room and you can have that room. You just leave the other rooms alone because these are the rooms that I still want to do my own thing in. God is enlarging Himself in His people. He is enlarging Himself in you and me. I am glad He is enlarging Himself in you and me. I am glad He knows how to break us.

Joseph is a very good example. We know that God had a plan for Joseph's life. God has a plan for everyone reading this. No matter how small you are, God has a plan for your life. He had a plan and purpose for you from the

very beginning. He has predestined you. *Rom. 8:29* says, **For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn of many brethren.** You need to understand that there is a plan. God awakens each individual in His own time and in His own way. We see that God wants to be in control of our lives. When we don't let Him, He has to bring correction.

That's what is going on in the United States of America now. She is going through correction. If she were not going through correction, then what kind of God would we have? God is a loving Father who loves His people. All the way through the Old and New Testaments, He brought correction. The Bible says that when the judgment of God is in the earth, the people will learn righteousness. God's judgments are His corrections; they bring forth righteousness in the land. **Isaiah 26:9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.**

It takes a process for this horse, which are you and I to become broken. Through that breaking, your soul starts dying, your desires change, your lifestyle changes, your way of thinking changes, and your behavior changes. Only Christ can change us. He is changing us to be exactly like Him, behave like Him, act like Him, talk like Him and move like Him. God desires that we have that union with Him and allow

His power to flow out of us so that He can manifest and declare His nature throughout the world. The Lord is so gentle. He knows how much each individual can take.

Once a horse is broken, a bit is put in his mouth. In having the bit, the horse can only turn whichever direction the master pulls the rein. God is beginning to take rein and charge of your life. You become subject to Him so that the beauty and glory of the Lord can be seen in you.

We all go through the fire. It's a process of humbling that we need to go through. Joseph had three strippings. Three means resurrection life. Out of those three strippings, God was separating Joseph unto Himself. Each and every one of you reading this is to be separated unto the Father because you belong to Him. We don't belong to ourselves. We have no right to think that tomorrow we can make our own choices without God's leading and guiding us. When we do, we end up with problems and wonder why.

You have to make choices and decisions, but learn to seek the counsel of God before doing so. If the answers don't come, then don't move on them. God gives you wisdom and understanding when to move on them.

God knew that He could not use Joseph in the state he was in at the beginning. He had to break him. He had to put Joseph through a process of stripping. That's why God had to put Joseph through three stages of stripping. Joseph did the last stripping

himself.

There are some things in our lives that need to be removed and others that need to be changed.

We are like trees. If you have some covering or you have thoughts in your mind that are not like Christ or God's way, then I guarantee you that you will go through another stripping, another winter. What is the winter for? To every man there is a season whether he knows God or not. Every human being in this whole world goes through different seasons. Every human being in this whole world will experience a winter. The winter is to humble him. Have you ever noticed a man, as he gets older? Many people get more humbled as they get older. They might not even know God, but you can see there is more humility in a person because of all the winters he has gone through in his lifetime. You can see the change in each individual.

God knows the process of every individual whether it is on this side or that side. His fire is on both sides. One thing about a tree, which you all are, your roots goes down in Christ. All trees have sap in them. The sap is what sustains and keeps you in the winter. Christ is that sap. The sap, in the natural, goes down to the roots of the tree. This is the Christ that's in you. The Christ that's in you is what sustains you through any storm or winter that you go through. Before the trees lose their leaves, they change into beautiful colors. You can look at trees and see the beauty with

different colors. It's because God is saying to the natural tree, "This is the way to life." Death, then life. Trees know that they are going to go through a process of death in the wintertime. This is an example of the beauty of the Lord.

When you see someone going through a wilderness and through the fire, you can say in your heart and mind, "I see the beauty of the Lord." That individual is going to come forth in the nature and likeness of our Christ. "I see the beauty of the Lord."

When the leaves fall off the trees, the trees are naked. Sometimes God puts us in the wilderness to humble us. When we are in the wilderness, we become naked. Everything that is hidden in our heart is revealed. Our heart is wicked and wretched, and no man can know it, but God knows our heart. Everything that is in our heart has to come to the rooftop, and all the covers are exposed. We cannot wait until spring because we know that those new leaves are going to shoot out again. God has established some trees to be rooted by the Living Water, which is the Christ. These trees are becoming strong trees. These roots are going very deep into Christ, deep into the Word and the understanding of the Lord. As the roots go deep, the leaves will have medicine in them to heal the nations. Ezekiel 47:12, And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new

fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

I'm talking about the nature of God. They will be able to heal and minister to creation because they have the fruits of God. These trees are trees that bore 12 fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month That's in the book of Revelation where it talks about trees on one side of the river and trees on the other side, and they are bearing fruit. The fruits are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, and gentleness. . Rev. 22:2 says, In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations .You know God is slow to anger? That's the nature of God.

You develop patience through tribulation. God works His patience into you through tribulation. James 1:2-4, My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. The only way that God can work His nature is to put you through tribulation so He can work His patience in. That's how you get the nature of God. It is interesting how He does all these things. The only way that God can work His nature is to put you through tribulation so He can work His patience in you.

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Why is God doing all of this? What is the purpose and the plan of the Lord? We must understand these things to really come to that place. This is the hour to walk in humility in Christ as never before because pride is the beginning of a fall. Every time your self-will or your ego rises up (which is pride), you begin falling out of the Spirit of God. It happened to Adam in the beginning and has happened all the way down through time. Nothing has ever changed. It is always the same. The Father has to break every individual like that horse to bring that individual into submission to the Master. Sometimes the horse will run away. You will get a horse that you want to train, and the horse wants to get in the field (world) and do his own thing, and the horse runs away. Does the master go running after the horse? No. God doesn't go running after you. God just waits very patiently. He might have to wait years. He might have to wait for you to go from one hell to another, until you are finally like that horse. The horse begins to remember the master fed, petted and loved him. The master was always speaking a kind word to the horse. Luke 15-32 (Prodigal Son) Jesus Christ is coming on horses. The horses He is coming on are you and I; the sons of God that He has broken, those who God has complete rein and control of their lives. They are broken and are humble. Revelation 19:11-14, And I saw

heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. Jesus Christ is the example. He was humble, meek and lowly. He was an individual, but He always did the things, which pleased His father and not Himself. He didn't go around saying, "Hey, God, I don't have time to fool around with You today. I don't have time to do what you want me to do. God, I'm just going to go do my thing today Peter didn't get it right away either, even after Jesus was resurrected. Sometimes it takes many months or years for us to get it. Even after Jesus was resurrected, Peter said, "I'm going fishing. Come on, boys, let's go fishing." John 21:3 says, Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a-fishing. They say unto him, we also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing. He didn't even ask the Lord if he could go fishing. He just made his own decision. We have been like Peter many times, where we would do what we wanted to do. Instead, we should ask the Lord, "Lord, is this what you want me to do today?" We learned a long time ago that every day belongs to our heavenly

Father, and we are His instruments. We live and move and have our being in Him. He lives in us, walks in us and talks through us. "God, where do You want to be today? God, what do You want to do? What do You have planned?" If you need to work, you can be a light on your job. You can be a light wherever you are. Israel could not learn that God wanted them to live just one day at a time. That was the hardest thing for them to learn. God wanted them to live in the moment, in the now and one day at a time. We are a people who are always planning ahead.

It is interesting that God only gave them enough bread for one day. On Saturday He gave enough bread for two days. Some tried to hoard all the bread and store it up, and it spoiled. God was trying to give them this example: You only need enough for a day. I've done this when I didn't have much money and owed thousands of dollars. I'm thinking, "How am I going to pay this?" The Lord spoke and said, "Joyce, when is that bill due?" I said, "The tenth of the month." He asked, "Is it the tenth of the month yet I've got to have it before the tenth of the month. He said, "Well, do you have to pay it today?" "No, I don't have to pay it today." He said, "What are you worried about then?" "Don't you have food today?" "Yes, Lord." "Don't you have a house today?" "Yes, Lord." "Then what are you worried about?" He said, "Live in the moment. Live today." It has taken me years to learn this. He said, "Joyce, when are you going

to grow up? When are you going to quit worrying about your needs?" When are you going to quit worrying about money?" The only thing you need to be concerned about is being in My will every day and making Me first every day." Mat 6:33 says, But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. "Put My word into action every day, and you are going to see it work." We have to go through a process before we grow up and not worry about these things anymore. We begin to see the needs of others. We notice what they are going through and have compassion and say, "God, how can you use me to help that individual?" You know your needs are going to automatically be met. All you have to do is obey God. These are basic kingdom principles. Matt 6:25-33.

Let's read Deuteronomy 8:2, And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his comandments, or not. The Lord put Israel in the wilderness because Israel was stiff-necked and stubborn. We have also been stiff-necked, stubborn and rebellious. If you have been a parent, you have provided for your children. You provided their food and clothing every day. Children don't have to worry about their food and clothing if they have parents who love them. The Lord says that we must be as a little child, to depend

on Him. They don't worry. What are they doing? They are playing, and they are happy. Your children become teens. Lord, have mercy! This is what happens to God's sons. Some of them start growing up and maturing. Have you ever noticed that when your children start growing up and maturing, they start rebelling? You say, "John, do this," and he replies, "I'm not going to do it. Nope, don't want to, don't feel like it." The parent has to give the same instructions repeatedly. If your children don't follow through, you get grieved and hurt because you love them. You do it because you care about them. You can really understand what God goes through with His own people because of the stubbornness, stiff-neckedness and unbelief. We don't believe Him. Therefore, we don't follow through with the instructions He gives us, and it grieves Him. If you ever get grieved with your children and their rebellion, you can understand how your heavenly Father feels when you rebel against Him. This is a perfect example. If you can understand how things go on in your own household, you can understand how the Father feels.

God waits patiently for that horse to come back. When the horse comes back, God does not say, "Well, I told you so. No, God doesn't do that! When that horse comes back, whining a little bit, all beat up, there is the heavenly Father, like when the prodigal son came home, waiting to embrace him to give him what he needs and the word to sustain him.

Have you ever seen a horse when the master takes the horse by the reins, and he yanks the horse by the reins and pulls the horse down to its knees? Have you ever heard the whining of the horse as he is going down, because he knows that he is having to totally surrender to the master? This is how God works in you and me.

When Joseph was completely surrendered to his master, and he removed the garments that he needed to remove, God raised him up. God used Joseph to sustain people with a word and feed them through that period of time.

In Deuteronomy 8:2 it says, *And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee...* Forty years. We know the number 40 refers to being proven, tried and tested. Nobody has to go 40 years in the wilderness. Jesus only went 40 days. The Bible says that the Lord told Israel they could enter into the promised land in three days.

Entering into the promised land is entering into the kingdom of God and His fullness. They could not enter in because of rebellion, murmuring and complaining. They were angry with God because God had gotten hold of them, taken over their lives, and brought them out in the middle of nowhere. They had no water, and they complained. God was bringing them to a place of submission and dependence on Him. It is interesting that many never entered in. They did not

enter in because they refused to use the word of God and follow all His instructions. So very many people had died, in the wilderness. There is a path of destruction that many are on. They are walking in their souls, their own wills, feelings, and emotions. They are not on the narrow path, which leads to life. *Mat. 7:13-14 says, Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:*¹⁴ *Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.* The way to life is narrow, very narrow. Those who follow Jesus are on the narrow path.

Following Jesus is not always easy. You will be rejected, despised and hated without a cause. All those things are part of the purpose and the plan of God. He said, "If the world hated Me, it's going to hate you as well." Those who are in the world and those who walk in the flesh will hate you because they don't like people who walk in the spirit. They don't like to see people who are happy all the time with a smile on their face. They want people to be in the same misery and destruction they are in.

Jezebel was a harlot because she would not allow God to be her husband. She would not receive instruction or ruler ship in her life. Therefore, she ended up with a very destructive life. This is what happens when the soul takes over. It takes over and says, "I'm not going to obey God, I'm not going to follow God, but I'm going

to do my own thing.” We get into trouble, and create more hells for ourselves.

Deut. 8:2 says, *And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or not.* Sometimes you don't know what is in your heart, but God knows. He knows how much ego and pride each individual still has and how much unbelief and fear each one still has. Sometimes the soul is afraid to walk into the unknown in faith and afraid to trust God. The soul tries to take the reins back and be in control. It takes a while to learn to allow God to be in control, especially if you have been in control for 30 or 40 years. That's why it has to be a process for every individual to go through. He tested me to know what was in my heart, whether I wanted to keep His commandments or not. He humbled me and suffered me to hunger and fed me with manna. God suffered Israel to hunger. God will bring you into a place where you will hunger after Him. I don't know how many wake-up calls each individual needs. He wants us to pursue Him. In Deuteronomy 8:3 it says, *And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.* God was saying, “You've made your own bread. You've

made your own money. You've furnished your own living. You've done everything in your own strength. What I'm asking you to do is to trust me and to apply My word to your life, because man does not live by bread alone, but he is to live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.” That means no matter how things look on the outside, you have to trust God's word and believe it. If God said He is going to do something for you, He is! It might not be in your time or how you planned. If God has spoken to you of what He is going to do, then all you need to do is believe. If you believe, you would be acting like you believe. If you don't believe, you murmur and complain, and get depressed, upset, mad and angry. You worry yourself sick and lose a lot of sleep. It is important for us to believe the word, which says in Phil. 4:19, *But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.* If you want any blessings from God, get in the spirit and in faith, because all the blessings are in heavenly places. Eph. 1:3 says, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.* If you are in your carnal mind, murmuring, complaining, mad and angry, then you are not going to tap in to those blessings that God has stored up for you.

I remember one experience I had in the cold of winter. It was February, and I had no heat. The furnace broke down on me. My dad had just had a stroke, and I

was supposed to fly out a week later on Monday to see him. It was below zero outside. I wore two pairs of jeans and two sweaters, and gloves. It was freezing cold in my house, and there was no heat. A man had told me just before that incident that God was getting ready to bless me. At that time I needed a carpet. It was all worn out. I needed the house painted and definitely needed a new furnace. I called up the insurance company. They said, “Lady, we never bought a furnace for anybody, and we certainly are not going to start buying a furnace for anyone now.” God told me to wait three days. On the third day I am lying on my couch, and I am crying, “God, I'm freezing. I am so cold. You know I have a plane to catch on Monday. What am I going to do?” I heard this little song. The Lord is blessing me right now, right now. You may not be able to see what the Lord is doing for thee. The Lord is blessing me right now, right now. The Lord said, “Stop your murmuring and complaining. Wipe your tears, quit crying. This is a time of rejoicing.” He said, “Joyce, if you want My blessings, you have to tap into it by faith. You have to tap into that realm, begin to praise Me and worship Me and be glad.” I started praising God. I started thanking Him. I said, “I don't know what I am thanking you for, but I know something is coming my way. I know something is cooking in the heavenlies, so I am going to keep praising You. I know You are going to send someone here to give me some

heat because I am very cold." It wasn't long after that, the next morning, I got a phone call. I didn't even know the man, but he called me up and said he found out through a friend that I didn't have any heat. He said, "I will be over Friday. I'm going to bring you a stove; a big wood stove, and hook it up for you in the fireplace. No problem." God is something else. I said, "Thank you, Lord. Here comes my heat." To make a long story short, the man came with the stove. I forgot I needed a new carpet. That Friday morning I got a phone call as the people were putting the stove in. I had wood in the fireplace, so they had to get all the coals out of the fireplace. I had no idea that they had put the coals in a paper bag and set the bag on my carpet. The insurance people called me and said, "We don't know why, but we have changed our mind. We are going to get you a furnace. We want you to go out and get an electric heater, and we will pay for that. Go out and get some wood, and we will pay for that. We are going to put your new furnace in on Monday morning. Well, I was leaving Monday afternoon. He said, "I will put it in on Monday morning and it will be ready for you to leave. I said, "Lord, this is a miracle." They sent an insurance man out who said, "This is a miracle. They have never done this. I've worked for them for 25 years." He said, "They are also going to paint your house because it was all covered with soot. My house needed painting. God doesn't miss anything. He caused those men to put the coals into a

bag and set my carpet on fire because God knew I needed a new carpet. When I was on the phone with the insurance man, suddenly there were flames going up from my carpet, and I said, "My carpet is on fire!" The insurance man said, "Don't worry about it, lady. We will buy you a new carpet." The Lord gave me all the things I needed. He worked through the insurance people. I don't know how it will work for you, but God will meet your needs. Quit looking to man for your needs, and look to God for your needs. He will move through whomever He wants. If you keep looking to men, He will harden their hearts and they will not give it to you. God chooses whomever He wants to use so that He can bless whomever He wants to bless. This is how God works. Are we leaning upon our arm, our own strength, and not depending on Him? This is the day you are going to see the nature and glory of God being declared. The power of God will be seen and declared throughout all creation. God is going to use that one corporate man and will take him through the process of the fire to break him. *Psalm 34:2* says, my soul shall make boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. You are going to have to wait until God humbles them. They are going to hear the message of the kingdom of God and rejoice. *II Chronicles 7:14* is a very familiar scripture which we have quoted in the past. It says, If my people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and

turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Nebuchadnezzar is a good example of every human being. He represents the soul of everyone. God created Nebuchadnezzar, and he got too puffed up like a lot of God's people do. Nebuchadnezzar had a position and he was a king.

God has His sons, and they are kings and priests in the earth. Daniel interpreted a dream about Nebuchadnezzar. He told Nebuchadnezzar that he got too big, too wealthy, too far away from God, and got into pride and exalted himself.

Jesus made himself of no reputation. He is the example that we are to follow. *Philippians 2:7* says, but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and made in the likeness of men. Jesus had to humble himself to obedience, and took upon him the form of a servant. He was made in the likeness of men.

God will humble His sons by whatever degrees and processes He wants to use. God told Nebuchadnezzar what He was going to do with him. He told him that He was going to cause him to go into the field, which is the world. *Dan. 5:18* reads, O thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour. In other words, when you think you did all this yourself, it was your heavenly Father who gave you this. *Dan. 5:19* reads, And for the majesty that he gave

him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down. Nebuchadnezzar is also a symbol of the United States of America. He represents the state that the United States of America has got her self into. *Dan. 5:20-21* says,

But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:

²¹ And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts. In other words, he became very carnally minded. He lived in the field of the world and was just a carnal human being like many individuals are. He was not a spiritual man any more. Because of pride, he fell greatly and lost his position and glory that the Father had given him. The scriptures say that the Lord spoke and said He was going to pass over him seven times. That's what the Lord spoke to us about the United States of America in 1993. He said, "I will pass over the United States of America seven times and will begin in the year of 1993." To pass over Nebuchadnezzar, it took a process. You know that every human being will go through this. They will go through hell whether on this side (of the river of life) or on that side. God is a consuming fire. The Lord said He will shake everything that can be shaken. He said that anything that is in us that offends the kingdom of God must be burned. God is a consuming

fire. What is a consuming fire? It is the nature of God that consumes anything that is not like His nature. The consuming fire of God is tribulation that we go through until we begin to see what He is trying to say. I've been through many things myself, and when I go through it, I don't know exactly what is going on. I have learned God is always right. Our opinions mean absolutely nothing. Whether I understand it or not, God is in it. *I've learned that nothing can come your way unless God allows it. All things work together for good for those who love God.* No matter what I am going through, I know that there is a lesson I am to learn. I might not see the lesson right away, and you may not see it until you are out of the situation. God will eventually give you the understanding. *James 1:2* says, My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations. The Word didn't say for us to murmur and complain did it? It didn't say to get mad at God either. It said to count it all joy when you are going through various trials. *James 1:5* says, If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. Wisdom is understanding, to help you understand why you are going through your present situation. You may say, "Well, sister Joyce, I haven't heard God talk to me. God is not saying anything to me." I'll tell you, if you knock at the door long enough, He is going to answer.

When you want an answer

from God, pursue Him. You don't always get the answer right away, but be like that woman who kept knocking on the door. In the Bible, it says that the woman kept knocking, and He had to come and answer it. "If you seek, you shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you." You may say, "If God wants to tell me, He will. I'm going to go back and do my own thing. If He wants to do His thing, let Him do it. If He wants to tell me, let Him do it." No, God says seek. God says ask. God says knock. Christians are lazy. The Lord likes you to pursue Him and talk with Him. He wants you to learn to know His still, small voice, and then He can speak to you through your thoughts. When He is talking to you, you will have thoughts coming from the back of your head, and you won't even be thinking about it. Suddenly there will be thoughts coming from the back of your mind. These thoughts will bring you peace. You will know it wasn't you thinking that because your mind wasn't even on the subject. Out of nowhere, these thoughts rise to the front. God is trying to get your attention. If He is not speaking to you, then He is trying to tell you, like He did Israel, to believe His word, read His word, and "study to shew yourself approved." God will show you just how much word is in you. When you have problems, the Word of God will sustain you. If you believe what He says in His Word, you need to apply it.

Look how Nebuchadnezzar ended. This is how America is going to end.

Dan. 4:34 says, And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar...

Some of God's sons are coming to the end of their world, the end of themselves. They are understanding Christ dealt with self on the cross, and they are dead in Christ and their lives are not their own. Dan. 4:34 continues, And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes to heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me. There had to be a breaking and humbling. There had to be a process that Nebuchadnezzar went through. Notice where his eyes were after the process. His mind was in a heavenly state. His mind was caught up on God and God's ways, and all his spiritual understanding had returned. An awakening happened in his mind because of humility and humbleness.

The media said people were going to church by the thousands after the September 11, 2001 incident in New York. It is a shame that God has to allow these things to take place to get man's attention. Nebuchadnezzar said a very interesting thing in Dan. 4:34, And I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth forever. God is getting a little respect now. Sometimes your children don't respect you when you are sharing your love and correction with them because you love them so much. Your children don't appreciate you until they get away from home and have to take on responsibilities and concerns such as you have. They don't understand what you went through until they have their

own children. Then they say, "Mom, I don't know how you put up with us all those years, but I'm beginning to appreciate you." People don't appreciate anything until they have experienced and walked through it themselves. That's the way life is.

Nebuchadnezzar's tune changed as a result of his processing. Dan. 4:35 says, And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou? Nebuchadnezzar came to realize that he was nothing and God in him was everything. God does according to His will. He has His own army in the heavenly state, of which you are a part. Nebuchadnezzar finally came to the understanding that God is right and He is always right. God knows exactly what He is doing, and He has a plan for man. Dan 4:36 says, At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me.. God returned everything that He took away. What did he do with Job? He had to humble Job. Everything He took away from Job was returned double.

Look at Solomon. He didn't want the wealth of the world. He wanted the wisdom of God. God gave him the wealth of the world and a long life because he didn't ask for any of that. He wanted God and His wisdom, and

he wanted to know God. Dan. 4:36 continues,

I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me. ³⁷ Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

He is able to abase those who walk in self-will, ego and pride.

Isaiah chapter 2, is a very good chapter to study because we are in the day of the Lord. It says every high and lofty thing shall be made low, even lofty looks. That is interesting. Verse 11 tells us what we are to do. This is the day to enter into the Rock and abide in Christ. This is the day for you to enter into the chambers of the Lord and shut the doors about you until the indignation is passed. Isaiah 2:11 says, The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. Aren't you happy that this is on the horizon, that the only One to be exalted is the Lord, the almighty God? He is the One who will receive all the power, glory and majesty. Isaiah 2:12 says, For the day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low: ¹³ And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan, ¹⁴ And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up. The cedars of Lebanon and the oaks of Bashan are His sons. The day of the Lord is consuming the pride

that is on them. Mountains speak of the state and condition of people's minds. *Isaiah 2:15* says, Every high tower and every fenced wall. *Isaiah 2:17-18* says, And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. ¹⁸ And the idols he shall utterly abolish. He is doing all this because man cannot have life without Him. Man cannot experience the ultimate love of God without it. *I have learned that the wrath of God is nothing but the ultimate love of God. It is nothing but His love that brings correction to mankind.* *Phil. 2:10-11* says, That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. In the process of time, every human being that God created and shall continue to create will eventually come into subjection to the lordship of Christ Jesus. Is that not fair tactics? Some will rebel like donkeys right now. Some will sit on their haunches and say, "I am not moving." They don't understand that they just started creating a hell for themselves rather than coming into a love affair and complete submission to Christ. God is so good that He wants us to understand His purpose. One thing He revealed is: You have your 6th day, 7th day, 8th day and 9th day. This is a process of spiritually growing in Christ. God created man on the 6th day. Man fell from that spiritual position

because of pride and became a natural man. He was no longer a spiritual man because he had a fallen state in his own mind. He had to work by the sweat of his brow and worry and be concerned about his family. He would have no peace of mind and no rest in the soul. All of the thorns or thoughts could not bring any life in man's mind. Then Jesus came along and said, "You must be born again." By being born again, you begin to understand you are a spiritual being. Therefore, you cannot go back to the 6th day because Christ took the 6th man and crucified that old man on the cross. Every time you return to the 6th day, your soul (ego, self-will and flesh nature) is blind to the truth. "Choose this day whom you will serve"-life or death. When you choose to yield to the flesh and the carnal mind, you return to the 6th day and choose death, not life.

We are here for life, and we understand that Christ is life. When we walk with Him, we obtain life. God wants you to have life and life more abundantly. Life becomes more abundant when you remove yourself from the 6th day and reckon yourself to be dead. The old man has been buried in the water. You are resurrected in newness of life, your life is not your own, and you are to be led by His Spirit each day.

On the 7th day God begins to perfect you. He moves upon you, and perfects you from glory to glory into the image of His dear Son. It is a process of going from one glory to another glory. The 7th

day brings you into the 8th day. The 8th day is new beginnings and change. You have to have the 7th day in order to have the 8th day because you cannot have new beginnings without change. The 7th day is to perfect you and issue in new beginnings and change. In the 9th day you are to bear the fruits of Christ so Christ will be manifested in the world through your life. The 9th day is the 9th hour. Jesus knew when the 9th hour would come for Him.

In the Old Testament it was the 9th hour and the 9th day that the sacrifice was completely consumed. The Lord spoke to us and said, "We are in the 9th hour." *Mark 15:34* And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? At the 6th hour, darkness began to cover the whole earth. Darkness is beginning to cover the whole world now. Darkness is fear, doubt and unbelief because of the chaos in the earth. That's why Jesus knew that He was to be obedient unto death. That's where God has some of His sons right now. Paul pleaded, and I stand here today, pleading with every one of you. I beseech you, brethren, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice to the Lord, for this is your reasonable service. God, what do you want me to do? He wants your body. He wants to use you. It's a sacrifice, but it's a living sacrifice. When you sacrifice your life to Christ, you begin to live. On the 9th day the sacrifice was completely

consumed. God is getting ready to finish consuming some of His people and fill His temple with all His power and glory. He is ready to swallow up your soul and consume anything in us that is not like Him, in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye. God is looking upon the earth for willing hearts in people. He is getting ready to take over completely.

When Jesus yielded up His spirit to the Father, He humbled Himself in obedience to the last step He had to take and presented Himself to the Father. The first thing that happened, the veil was rent from top to bottom. The carnal mind will be completely consumed. Your will shall be totally controlled by God so He can manifest His power and glory in the earth. He is raising up a people for the darkest hour that mankind has ever seen. Those willing to yield themselves fully unto Him will be used for His glory. When those who comprise that one corporate man are freed of their corruption, they won't go in and out any more. They will remain in the Spirit of God.

When Jesus gave up the Spirit and the veil was rent from top to bottom, there was an earthquake. *Mat. 27:50-51* says, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. ⁵¹ And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent. Jesus died and was resurrected. He had to be the one to resurrect first. *Mat. 27:52-53* says, And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, ⁵³ And

came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. Then Joseph and many others from the past came out of graves and walked down the streets of Jerusalem with Him. God consumed many others from the past who entered into resurrection. When the remainder of the sons are consumed, they, along with the others from the past, will walk in power and glory.

"When you see the sign in the sun, moon and stars, know it is close to the time of the coming of the Son of Man." He is coming in clouds of glory and His people. People are clouds. This is Christ coming to issue in the kingdom as Lord. This is the good news. Look at the hope you have.

God wants you to come into a rest, enjoy Him to the fullest, develop a love affair with Him, and allow Him to take you through the process. Do not dwell in unbelief or fear. Remain in complete trust in Him. Life is beautiful. Life is wonderful.

While ministering in Lorton prison for 26 years, I saw a lot of men in prison, many of whom were happy and smiling. They didn't allow the circumstances to rule and control them. They ruled the situation because it's all a matter of the mind. Your freedom and liberty is a result of how you think and believe, because "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Whatever state or condition you are in, whatever problem you face; in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God. Count it all joy

and praise Him for whatever it might be, and He will bring you through it. Then your problem won't rule you, you will rule over the problem because you have your mind lifted into a heavenly state and not down into a natural state.

Be humble and know that He is God. The Lord doesn't want you to merely act like you are humble.

Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?