

HOPE GAZETTE

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June 19-23

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EMBRACING THE PROCESS

Pastor Jeannette Parrott

So, you have received Christ as your savior! Congratulations! You have just begun an adventure of a lifetime! This is one decision that you will never regret.

I made that decision on February 29, 1976. It was a defining time in my life. I turned from a life of darkness to the light that is in Jesus Christ. Since that time there have been many lessons learned along the way. I believe it's our privilege as Christians to share with others the things we have learned.

This salvation walk with Jesus Christ is a process. It's just like life itself. There are stages of growth and the quicker we get on board with the process, the quicker we can get on with enjoying the journey.

What do we mean by embracing the process? It means to accept the fact and trust in the fact that God has a plan for your life and it means allowing that plan to takes it's course. It means that you and I cooperate with the plan God has for us.

Embracing this process on the way to the promised land....(The promised land is the place of God's choosing. It's what He wants to do in our lives.)





"This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: 'Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message.' So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him" - (Jeremiah 18:2-4).

YOU INTENDED TO HARM ME, BUT GOD INTENDED IT FOR GOOD TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT IS NOW BEING DONE, THE SAVING OF MANY LIVES. GENESIS 50:20

God is busy making us into the vessel He wants. It's good to always have this in mind. There are times we will question the circumstances in our lives. We will naturally wonder, why the set of circumstances we are enduring have come our way. There will be varied answers to that question. However, one thing we will never question, is God's love for us and His plan for us which is always for our good.

Now, some of the things that I say come from the experience of having seen God at work over these past 47 years and seeing an emerging pattern. All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose Romans 8:28. Just like Joseph said, it (the circumstance) may have been intentioned to cause him harm, but "God turned it into good in order to bring about this present result..." Genesis 50:20. If God is for us, and He is, then whatever is against won't prosper or succeed Romans 8:31 and Isaiah 54:17. All of that is God's business. Our focus is to stay on the potter's wheel and don't climb down off the wheel before the potter can finish making us.

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

James 5:16

We are all in a different place in our Christian life, but wherever we are we can be sure of one thing: The almighty, sovereign, and eternal God is shaping us on His refining wheel. Often, we resist this refining process because it involves pain. But God is relentless in His goal of producing holiness and Christ-like character in each one of us (James 5:16). He uses our life experiences and struggles in this shaping process. Have you ever carefully watched a potter as he shaped the clay? It was at a potter's house in Jeremiah's day, that the prophet received one of his most dramatic messages. God told Jeremiah in 18:1 to go down to the potter's house and he would give him a message.

The text signals the urgency of the command - ARISE GO DOWN! The word "potter" means "forming one" or "shaper". The verb can be used of God's creative work (Genesis 2:7-8, Psalms 94:9 Isaiah 29:16. God has formed all that exists. He is the one that shapes people. He is shaping each one of us into a masterpiece for His glory.

It is the choice of the one being shaped if he agrees to what his maker is doing. I wonder how many of us - if we were honest - wonder what God is doing in some area of our life and if He actually knows what He is doing? Today you might feel like nobody cares or knows, and you feel as if you are in a hidden storage place.

"I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains (just one grain; it never becomes more but lives) by itself alone. But if it dies, it produces many others, and yields a rich harvest" (John 12:24, Amplified)

Jeremiah obeyed and went down. He saw the potter working on the wheel. The Hebrew word for wheel implies two wheels (dual form). Potters typically used a device with a lower stone wheel fastened on a vertical shaft with a small wooden wheel above. The potter would sit turning the large stone wheel with his feet while shaping the clay on the small wooden wheel. To express Jeremiah 18 verse 4 with the meaning of the Hebrew verbs, "Whenever the pot he was shaping was spoiled, as happens with clay in the hands of the potter, he would remake it into another vessel, shaping it as seemed best to him." Spoiled, marred, ruined vessels were not tossed aside and discarded in favor of those that emerged perfect. They were remade! God can mend cracked pots!



We often try to thwart the purpose of the potter. The clay often presses against the potter's hand as it goes around. The potter controls the opposing force with pressure if he wants a useful pot. God kneads, pushes, presses and pulls us into shape, but He never throws us away. He says to Israel in Jeremiah 18 verse 6, "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?" Isn't this what He says to us as well? Can we not say, "Yes, Lord. Form me into Your image. Do whatever it takes. I want to be like you!"

Shaped by the Hand of God

"Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand (Isaiah 64:8).

There are things we must practice as we are being shaped by the hand of God. There are ways we can get the greatest benefit out of these times of refinement. This is the time to trust completely in God for He knows exactly what He is doing. He is making you into a masterpiece for His glory. Learn to trust Him day by day. Remember that you are in the potter's hands - God is working at the wheel of your life in every detail. Let's look at some of the ways to cooperate with God.

What I Have Learned While I Wait

While I wait on those things to be manifested in my life that God has promised, there are some things that I have learned.

I know first and foremost I want to concentrate and give my full attention to my relationship with Christ. I want to know Him and love Him, and I want to hear from Him. This is something I desire to do daily.

I want to give focused, intentional, and purposeful attention to my relationship with Jesus. This is not just something I pay lip service to. I willingly pursue Jesus. I fight to keep the feeling of "duty and obligation" out of it and practice loving Jesus out of a heart that is overtaken by Him. Some days I am better at this than others.

I have learned that keeping an attitude of thankfulness no matter the circumstances keeps my heart in tune with Jesus. Bottom line, I don't want anything to come between me and Him! Nothing is worth that. I definitely want all of the promises that He has told me He has laid up for me.

While I wait, I have learned that God is ALWAYS at work even when I see no evidence of it.

Romans 9:20: "But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?"

Isaiah 29:16: "You turn things upside down as if the potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'You did not make me'? Can the pot say to the potter, 'You know nothing'?"

 Ask yourself, "Do I know the hands that are forming me? -Remember, God is your good shepherd. Meditate on Psalm 23.

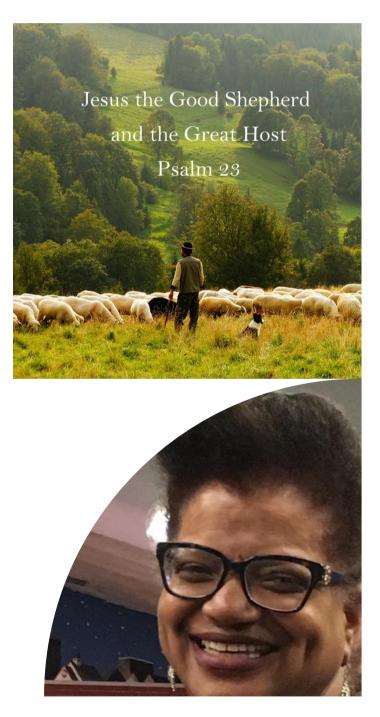
Psalm 23: "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul..."

- Obey God and walk in repentance Let Him touch every area of your life. Repent of weaknesses as He brings them to the surface.
- Hold onto God and His Word He will carry you through. Don't hurry along the process, but learn to cling to Him and His Word. Hold onto the promises in the Bible. Look at how other Bible characters were being shaped by God through their life experiences (Moses, Joseph, David, Elijah).
- Learn to wait on God and pray persistently Cry out to Him and wait for Him. He knows exactly what He is doing.
- Watch your attitude Thank Him for the character He is developing in your life. Don't give up or complain. Recommit yourself to Him and what He is doing in your life. Commit yourself afresh to God's plans and purposes. Remember, He is making you into a masterpiece for His glory.
- Love God for who He is Learn to be a lover of God for Himself and not what He can give you. Worship and praise Him throughout the day.

Is God not saying to us as He said to Israel, "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?"

Proven vessels have been oven-baked and refired again and again in the kiln of commitment until they've proven their ability to withstand the pressures and temperature of the fire. Once you cry out, 'God, I want to be like you,' then you will probably be broken up, made over into a brand-new vessel, and whisked out of the bright light into a deserted and dark back storage room until the appointed time. Remember, diamonds were just pieces of coal formed in a dark, pressurized environment." - Lori Wilke

I have much to share with you on this subject of embracing the process. Until next time, remember stay on the potter's wheel. He is making something beautiful out of your life!



THE ANTI CHRIST Pastor Larry Mitchell

> AS WE Ended Our LESSON, Last Month, Discussing, "The ANTI-CHRIST SPIRIT,"

... Talking About A SPIRIT, that Has Become SO Much More Obvious, in Our World Today, ... A "SPIRIT," That Has Been PREPARING the Hearts and Minds of PEOPLE, Around the WORLD, For a "ONE-World RELIGION;" and a "ONE-World GOVERNMENT,"... Which the BIBLE TELLS US, ... WILL BE LED ... By a "ONE-WORLD LEADER, ... the "ANTI-CHRIST !"

> NOW, PAUL Writes to the Church at GALATIA, . . [GAL. 4:6] "And Because you are SONS, (JOHN 1:12 - YOU Belong to GOD) . . GOD has sent forth the SPIRIT of HIS SON . . into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

Since the DAY of PENTECOST, When GOD Poured Out HIS SPIRIT, There in the UPPER ROOM, ... There Has Been An END TIME REVIVAL of People Around the WORLD, ACCEPTING JESUS CHRIST as LORD and SAVIOR of Their LIFE; "YES, Christianity Has Been GROWING, ... the KINGDOM of GOD Has Been EXPANDING !!

... BUT YET ... WE FIND That THERE Has ALSO Been Another SPIRIT That's Been at Work in the World, ... Trying To TURN the Hearts and Minds of People, ... AWAY From CHRIST, ... And IT IS A SPIRIT - of ANTI-CHRIST,"... Which Means: IF You're NOT FOR-CHRIST, THEN, YOU'RE AGAINST CHRIST, Or You're ANTI-Christ !

> SO, JUST as Surely as CHRIST Has Given US HIS SPIRIT, - There IS ALSO an ANTI-CHRIST SPIRIT, at Work Also, . . Possessing Those (WHO NOT ONLY) Refuse to Believe the Truth . . BUT ALSO Causing THOSE, WHO Were Once IN the TRUTH, To TURN AWAY, or TO, DEPART from the FAITH I.

.. To TURN AWAY, or TO DEPART From the FAITH !

And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

Galatians 4:6 KJV

I TIM. 4:1 "Now the Spirit speaks Very expressly, that in the Latter Times, (that in the LAST DAYS) Some shall DEPART from the FAITH, giving heed to SEDUCING SPIRITS and DOCTRINES of DEVILS:" . . . OF WHICH PAUL Prophesied WOULD HAPPEN, . . IN II THESS. 2:7 !

> . . SOMEBODY SAID; "REALLY ? "IS There Such A MAN ? I Mean, . . I've Heard About THIS "ANTI-CHRIST," . . TAUGHT and Preached SINCE I Was a KID !" TODAY, There ARE Great Men And Women, of Prophecy, WHO Have DECLARED That This Anti-Christ Has Already Been BORN, . . . And That HE IS, RIGHT NOW, . . in A HIGH, and INFLUENTIAL PLACE, . . . GETTING READY to TAKE CENTER STAGE !

> THE BIBLE Distinctly WARNS US . . . THAT HE WIll BE NOTHING SHORT of Being the SON of the DEVIL, HIMSELF, . . TOTALLY POSSESSED of the DEVIL, . . AND That HE is CALLED; "the MAN of SIN," . . "THE WICKED ONE," . . "The SON of PERDITION !!"

>THIS Word; "PERDITION,". . is Used Several Times in the New Testament [in the Ordinary Sense] IT Mean; "DESTRUCTION,"....BUT With a Special Reference,...Meaning; "The DESTRUCTION.. of the SOUL!"

In REV. 13:1 JOHN says;" I stood on the sand of the sea, (the Sea of Humanity) and I saw a Beast, Rising Up Out of the Sea, having SEVEN HEADS, (THIS BEAST Was Put Into Operation MANY, MANY Years Ago) ... AND These SEVEN HEADS, Represent the FIRST 5 Kings WHO RULED, UP Until John's Day; ... The Sixth King Who was in POWER At The TIME That THIS Was Written; And THEN, the Seventh King Who Will REIGN - AS the ANTI-CHRIST During the 7 Years of TRIBULATION. [Nebuchadnezzar's Dream in the Book of DANIEL]

> I JOHN 2:18 says; "Little Children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard, the Anti-Christ is Coming. Even now, MANY ANTI-CHRISTS have already come, by which we know that IT IS the LAST HOUR."

> HOWEVER, the Bible Teaches, That There WILL BE ONE, . . the FINAL ANTI-CHRIST, . . (Whose Identity, Through His Deeds and His Doctrine), . Will Eventually EXPOSE HIM . . to the WHOLE WORLD !

> In the Book of Revelation, JOHN Refers to THIS FINAL and Ultimate ANTI-CHRIST, . . as the BEAST !

>HE Will Have Supernatural POWERS, and Global INFLUENCE, ... SO, That WHEN THIS BEAST, ... or THIS Anti-Christ, ... DOES FIRST APPEAR, ... WHEN HE Does COME On the SCENE, ... (I Believe According to Scripture), ... THIS Will MARK the Beginning of the 7 year Tribulation Period !! The STAGE Is Being SET For His Appearance Right NOW !!

Chapter 17 Confirms THIS, Where JOHN says; "And there are Seven Kings; Five are Fallen, and One is, and the Other is Yet to Come; And When He Comes, He must continue a short Space." [HE Will NOT Reign as Long as the Other Ones Did] . . AND THEN, Continuing with 13:1 . . "and Ten Horns; And on his Horns, ten crowns, and on Their heads, a Blasphemous Name."

These TEN HORNS Picture a Confederation of TEN NATIONS or REGIONS OVER WHOM, the BEAST, or the ANTI-CHRIST WILL RULE.Once Again, Represented in the TEN TOES of Nebuchadnezzar's DREAM in the Book of DANIEL.

According to the Word, WE Know That When HE Finally Appears, HE Will BE WELL- RECEIVED, Because HE Will BRING About WORLD PEACE !

... BUT REMEMBER, HE'S a LIAR .. Because HIS Father is a LIAR, And There's NO TRUTH IN HIM !!

... BECAUSE HALFWAY Through the TRIBULATION Period, ... AFTER the FIRST 3 ½Years, ... THIS WORLD PEACE, TURNS INTO a FALSE PEACE, WHEN The "MYSTERY .. of INIQUITY" WILL BE REVEALED, ... THIS IS WHEN DR. JEKYL, ... WILL GIVE HIMSELF OVER TO SATAN, And WIII TURN Into MR. HYDE, "the WICKED ONE !!" ... THIS SAME Thing Happened To JUDAS ESCARIOT in LUKE 22:3 .. Right Before HE BETRAYED JESUS at the Passover Meal; "Then SATAN ENTERED INTO JUDAS, Surnamed Escariot, Being One of the Twelve."

SO, When the COVER of This Whole Thing is BLOWED OFF, ... THE ANTI-CHRIST Will Then, SET HIMSELF UP ... as GOD Before the WHOLE WORLD ! AND THEN as I THESS. 5:3 WARNS; "And when they shall say, "Peace And Safety" [When People Are Saying That ALL is WELL, and SECURE], ... [LOOK OUT !] THEN ... THEN, shall Come Sudden Destruction !!

> BROTHERS and SISTERS, . . Its NOT Been ALL That Long Ago, That One of the Leaders of the European Common Market, . . Stood Up and Said, "The WORLD NEEDS a LEADER, . . And WE DON'T CARE IF IT'S the DEVIL HIMSELF !" WELL, Here In These LAST DAYS, . . IF You Haven't Noticed, . . The WORLD IS GETTING EXACTLY WHAT IT'S BEEN ASKING FOR !!"

... AND I DON'T Believe Its Been By Any Accident That Over the LAST 30 – 40 Years, ... Praise & Worship in Many Churches, Has CHANGED DRAMATICALLY ! > In JOHN 4:23 it Tells US; "The hour will come, Yet now is, that the True Worshippers shall Worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth.

> We are Living at the End of the Church Age ! AND SO What is Happening NOW, as the BODY of CHRIST is USHERING IN the COMING of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, With a Much BOLDER PRAISE and WORSHIP, . . . At the Same Time, However, . . WE'VE Never Seen Such a Time of Evilness, . . Such Pornographic Wickedness, . . Such a Devilish DISPLAY of MUSIC, as we're SEEING RIGHT NOW, . . . AND the Explanation of THIS, (I Believe), is That, ALL of the BLASPHEMY That's Been HEARD in These LAST 50 Years, . . IN TODAY'S MUSIC, . . is USHERING in the COMING of the ONE, . . Who is Called the Wicked – Evil One Himself, . . the "ANTI-CHRIST!"

> The ONLY REASON That the ANTI-CHRIST HASN'T Revealed HIMSELF YET, ... is Because HIS TIME HASN'T COME YET ... BUT REAL SOON NOW, ... the HOLY SPIRIT WIII LIFT HIS RESTRAINING HAND ... and the MAN of SIN WILL BE REVEALED in FULL POWER !

II THESS. 2:6-12 says; "And now you know what it is, Restraining Him from being Revealed at this time; [GOD-the HOLY SPIRIT] It is so that HE might Be Revealed in His own APPOINTED TIME." For the MYSTERY of Lawlessness or Iniquity, is Already at Work, [The Spirit of ANTI-CHRIST] and Only HE [the HOLY SPIRIT] Who Lets, Will LET, . . Until HE [the HOLY SPIRIT In the MINISTRY of the CHURCH] . . . BE TAKEN OUT of the WAY." [Via the RAPTURE]

"AND THEN, shall that WICKED ONE, [MR. HYDE] the Anti-Christ, BE Revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the Spirit of his mouth, and shall Destroy with the Brightness of his Coming." Even Him, the Antichrist, Who's Coming, is after the working of Satan with all Power and Signs, and Lying Wonders."

"And with ALL deceivableness of unrighteousness in them, That Perish; because They Received NOT the LOVE of the TRUTH, that they might BE Saved. And for this cause, GOD shall send them strong delusion that they should believe a Lie." That they all might be damned who believed Not the truth, But had pleasure in unrighteousness."

> . . SO, I Might Add, . . IF You're Counting On the RAPTURE to OCCUR BEFORE the TRIBULATION Period, . . OR BEFORE the FIRST REVEALING of the ANTI-CHRIST, . . [Mr. NICE GUY] . . AND IT DOESN'T HAPPEN That WAY, . . AND YOU Haven't PREPARED Yourself, SPIRITUALLY, to ENDURE, Or to PERSERVERE For HARDER TIMES to COME, . . . YOU Have NO ONE to BLAME, BUT YOURSELF !!! The BIBLE Says in JERE. 12:5 . . "If You Have Run with the Foot-Men, and They have Worn You Out; How are You going to Compete With the Horsemen ?"

> In Other Words, WHAT This Means to US, TODAY, Is That IF YOU Can't LIVE For GOD TODAY, . . WHILE It's EASY, . . HOW Are YOU Gonna HANG IN THERE When TIMES Get TOUGH ? The TRUTH IS;"IT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN !" "DON'T BE DECEIVED !!"

> ALRIGHT, In II THESS. 2 . . . [I Know We Covered THIS BEFORE] . . BUT I Think It's Important Enough To Touch On It AGAIN, . . Especially Since It LEADS UP To the "ANTI-CHRIST" Coming Into Play !

> NOW, [Once Again] PAUL was Writing Here, to Clear Up Some Misconceptions That Had Arisen Concerning the LORD'S RETURN, . . Because Some JAYBIRDS, . . [Birds That Can Be a REAL NUISANCE] The Same JAYBIRDS That were a Real THORN in the FLESH to PAUL, . . [Which I Think PAUL was Probably Wanting to have a FLESH-BACK of about 5 Minutes With Em', BUT GOD Said, "My GRACE is Sufficient } . . ANYWAY, These Counterfeiters Had CAUSED The Thessalonians To FALL into a STATE of Theological CONFUSION !!WHY ? WHAT HAPPENED ?

> WELL, Actually, PAUL Had Originally Gone There, and HE'D TAUGHT THEM CORRECTLY, ... ABOUT the RETURN of CHRIST, . .BUT While HE'D Been Away, Somebody Else [the Jaybirds] . . THEY Had COME, And THEY Said THAT CHRIST Had ALREADY COME, and the DAY of CHRIST Was ALREADY at HAND !! SO, AFTER PAUL Had Heard ABOUT WHAT was Goin` On, ... HE SENT a LETTER to Try and Straighten Out Their Thinking. . . AND HERE It is in II THESS. 2:1- 4 ... [NIV] Where HE Writes; "Now, Concerning the COMING of our Lord Jesus Christ, DO NOT be So Easily Shaken in Mind or Troubled, . . . Whether it be by some pretended Revelation of A spirit, or by word, or by an Alleged letter, Said to have been Sent from US, to the effect that the DAY of Our Lord had Already ARRIVED."

> NOW BELIEVE IT or NOT, There are Churches Still TODAY, That TEACH THIS SAME THING, ... BUT PAUL says, THAT IT'S NOT TRUE ! HE GOES ON to SAY in Vs. 7 ; "Let No Man DECEIVE YOU, by any Means; [HE'S TELLING US Here, What I Want You To LOOK FOR !] [1st] "For that DAY will NOT COME, Except or UNTIL, there Come a FALLING AWAY FIRST; ... AND [2nd] the MAN of SIN BE REVEALED, ... the Son of Perdition."

> NOW, THIS "FALLING AWAY," Here, (That PAUL is Prophesying About), . . HE's Saying That THERE WILL BE a "DEPARTURE From the FAITH."... IT WIII BE AN ALL OUT REBELLION IN the WORLD, AGAINST the THINGS of GOD !!

JESUS Tells US, In MATT. 24:12 . . "And Because INIQUITY Shall Abound, . . [Because of This Anti-Christ Spirit] . . Because of THIS, the LOVE of MANY WILL GROW COLD !"

> MANY CHRISTIANS Who Have Been Sidetracked, . . Distracted, . . Misguided And Caught Up In the Turmoil and the Confusion of This WORLD, . . and Grown WEARY in Well-Doing, . . WILL BECOME EASY PREY For Old Mephistopheles, . . [the DEVIL] . . AND THEY WILL BE SHAKEN From Their SECURE POSITION."

> II PETER 3:17 says;". . his letters, (talking about PAUL) contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do other scriptures, to their own destruction; Therefore, my friends, since you already know this, . . be on your guard so that you may NOT be Carried Away by the Error of Lawless Men and FALL from Your SECURE POSITION; BUT GROW in the GRACE and the Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

> (SO, WE Have Another SIGN, Leading US INTO the LAST DAYS,) . . The TARES, . . (Those Who Look like Wheat, BUT They're NOT) . . THEY LOOK Like Christians, . . BUT ALL They've Really Done UP To THIS POINT, . . is Given LIP SERVICE to GOD ! The WORD says; that THEY Look Like WHEAT, BUT They're Really TARES !!

And the Bible says, When its TIME for the HARVEST, ... THEY'LL Show their FRUIT By Cuttin' .. and RUNNIN' !> In Other Words; WHEN the GOING Gets TUFF, .. (WHEN ITS TIME to REALLY LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE) .. THEY'LL SHOW Their TRUE COLORS by Throwin' in the TOWEL ! (SHOWING NO FRUIT at ALL)

>NOW, IF WE STOP Right HERE at Verse 4 of II THESS. Ch. 2 . . . Where PAUL says That "CHRIST CAN'T Come Until there come a "Falling Away" FIRST, . . And That the "MAN of SIN Be REVEALED," . . PAUL is Telling US that the "CHURCH WON'T BE "Raptured Out" UNTIL AFTER . . the ANTI-CHRIST Has BEEN REVEALED !!! [That's What HE SAYS !] . . AND AS WE Continue to Read on Down to Verse 7 . . PAUL BEGINS By Saying; " For the Mystery of Iniquity is already at Work; PAY ATTENTION TO THIS !!! WE KNOW That the Word "INIQUITY" Means; "LAWLESSNESS." . . BUT There's a MYSTERY That WE DON'T KNOW About, . . OR, WE DON'T UNDERSTAND !! A MYSTERY of LAWLESSNESS ! It's OUTSIDE the LAW of What's NATURAL ! (AND HERE IT IS) PAUL Goes ON to SAY; "And Only HE who

now Lets, . . Will Let, Until HE, Be TAKEN OUT of the WAY !"

"And THEN, . . AND THEN, . . the "WICKED ONE" [MR. HYDE] will BE REVEALED !" > SO, PAUL says That THIS, "MAN of SIN," . . (Whom the LORD Will Ultimately DESTROY With the Brightness of HIS COMING,) . . . WHEN HE FIRST Comes ON the SCENE, . . or STEPS FORTH as a WORLD LEADER, . . HE'S Gonna BE REAL POPULAR !! WHY? BECAUSE HE'S Gonna Bring WORLD PEACE !! . . HE'S GONNA BE WORLD RE-NOWNED !! HE'S GONNA BE HERALDED AS the GREATEST of the GREATEST !

... BUT THEN, WATCH OUT !... I THESS. 5:3 says; "When They Cry PEACE and Safety, ... Then shall Come Sudden Destruction !" ALL of a SUDDEN, ... WHEN WHATEVER IT IS ... That's Been RESTRAINING HIM, Or HINDERING HIM, Has Been Taken Out of the Way, THEN, the "MYSTERY" WIII BE REVEALED !! "The WICKED ONE," The EVIL SIDE, ... of THIS WORLD LEADER, CAN BE REVEALED to BEGIN HIS WICKED ACTIVITY TO a CLUELESS WORLD !!

> The Apostle PAUL Then Makes an Incredible Statement About the ANTI-CHRIST, Here in II THESS. 2:4 "SO that HE, (HE, the Antichrist) as GOD, HE SITS in The Temple of GOD, Showing himself that HE IS GOD ? SO, . . the "MYSTERY" of HIS LAWLESSNESS, WIII BE HID, . . OR WIII STAY a MYSTERY at FIRST, . . Because HE WILL BE Restrained, or HE WIII BE HINDER From REALLY . . . CARRYING OUT HIS WICKED ACTIVITY !

... BUT ONCE the "RESTRAINER," BE TAKEN OUT of the WAY, ... [That's the HOLY GHOST FILLED BRIDE of CHRIST," ... WE'LL BE GONE, VIA the RAPTURE !] THIS ANTI- CHRIST, .. the "SON of PERDITION" (the SON of the DEVIL) .. HIS WICKED PERSONIFICATION, .. WILL BE REVEALED !!!

> ONCE That Has Happens, . . HE'LL BE FREE to GO About HIS EVIL BUSINESS, . . UNTIL CHRIST COMES BACK, . . For a Showdown at ARMEGIDON, [Which is the REVELATION of CHRIST] KEEP In Mind, HE CAME the FIRST TIME as a LAMB, and a SAVIOR, . . BUT HE'S COMING BACK . . the SECOND TIME . . AS A LION, . . As the KING of KINGS !! AMEN ?

... AND THAT'S WHEN HE'S Gonna WHIP the ARMIES of the WORLD, ... AND HE Throws the ANTI-CHRIST into the LAKE of FIRE, (Along With the POPE) ... or (EXCUSE ME)... I Mean Along With "the FALSE PROPHET!"

> CHURCH, . . Brothers and Sisters, . . It's TIME We STOP Looking for the UNDER-TAKER, And START LOOKING For the UPPER-TAKER !! AMEN ? its TIME We STOP Looking Towards Jerusalem – to the REBUILDING of the TEMPLE, BECAUSE the ANTI-CHRIST is ALREADY ASCENDING to HIS THRONE !

. AND The THRONE and TEMPLE, That I'm Talkin` About, IS the THRONE . . IN the TEMPLE of PEOPLE'S HEARTS !

> I COR. 3:16 says; "Don't you know that YOU are the TEMPLE of GOD, and that the SPIRIT of GOD dwells in you ?"

NOW, THINK ABOUT THIS; HOW Many Likes to GO Someplace to VISIT, . . WHERE You KNOW You're NOT WELCOME!! NO !NOBODY DOES !

> SO DO YOU Think GOD`S Gonna Continue to DWELL INSIDE of a TEMPLE That's Been DESECRATED . . or a TEMPLE That's Been Made an ABOMINATION, By ALLOWING, . . (I'm Talking About Our FREE Right to CHOOSE). . By Allowing a SPIRIT of Lust and Pride and Rebellion and Unforgiveness and Malice to Continue to REIGN From the THRONE of TEMPLE of OUR HEARTS !

> ONCE AGAIN, the Question IS Asked, . . "WHO is THAT, or WHAT is THAT, . . Which is RESTRAINING THIS - THIS "SON of the DEVIL,", . or the Anti-Christ . . From REALLY BEING REVEALED ??

> THE TRUTH IS; . . the ONLY TRUE Restraining Factor in the World Today, . . For SIN, . . Godlessness . . Lawlessness, . . FROM TOTAL CHAOS, . . is the PRESENCE and the WORK of the HOLY SPIRIT, . . Through the Blood Bought Church of JESUS CHRIST !

> ... AND THAT'S Exactly WHO the DEVIL is Working ON, in These LAST DAYS, ... In Trying to Clear the PATH For HIS .. SON of PERDITION !... Its the SPIRIT-FILLED CHURCH of the LIVING GOD !!

> SO, the SUMMARY of ALL THIS; The BIBLE Says That THIS ANTI-CHRIST SPIRIT is ALREADY at WORK in the Earth TODAY, . . PREPARING a PATH For THE ANTI-CHRIST !

> I JOHN 4:3 says;"... and this is that Spirit of Anti-Christ, ... whereof, you have heard about, that it should come, and is even NOW, already in the world."

> AND ONCE The CHURCH, ... Once the RESTRAINING FACTOR, of THIS ... ANTI- CHRIST Spirit, ... Has Be TAKEN OUT of the WAY, VIA the "RAPTURE, the ANTI-CHRIST Can THEN, BEGIN to WREAC HAVOC On the EARTH, AND WILL AT LAST, ... MAKE HIS TRUE APPEARANCE !

... IN the NEXT ISSUE, of the HOPE GAZETTE, ... WE'RE Going to TALK MORE About the ANTI-CHRIST and the "MARK of the BEAST !" "And May GOD BLESS YOU, And May GOD KEEP YOU, ... And May GOD Cause HIS FACE to SHINE UPON YOU !" **AMEN IN JESUS NAME !!**



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CHECK YOURSELF

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Excerpt taken from March 26, 2023 Sermon



PASTOR MELODY CARPENTER What is in your heart? Better be sure because your mouth will give you away if you aren't careful.

Ephesians 4:31-32 ESV

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

There is nothing in me that says that pop shots, making jokes of someone else, belittling or rejoicing in someone's sorrow comes from a pure of a God filled heart.

I find myself reflecting tonight on how much of this activity I see from the body of Christ. The above scripture is only one reference in the Bible out of a hundred plus. When I did research on how many scriptural references on gossip there are in the Bible. I was given several numbers but the largest was 133.

I think it's safe to say we've all been party to some form of harmful behavior. I still find myself asking why that is and especially coming from someone who calls themselves a Christian. Why would making fun of someone else be allowed to exist in the heart of someone who says they love and serve Christ? I Timothy 3 gives straight forward criteria for leadership in the church. It's crystal clear as to how a leader should conduct themselves.

Again- the Ephesians 4 passages already mentioned covers very clearly how a Christian should conduct themselves. Take a look at the text prior to what I've already quoted.

Ephesians 4:29-30 "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

And let's continue on with more clarity on this topic.

1 Peter 3:8-12 ESV

"Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

Evil is a very enormous word. I think we associate evil with homicidal activity, thieving or demonic activity. But the I Peter scripture mentions evil associated with the tongue. Our tongues can be weapons of evil.

Let's be real though. The tongue is only the tool used by the heart of the person. The condition of the heart – the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. I place a huge question mark on a heart that enjoys even a laugh at someone else's expense.

What do we do in response to such activity? If we are the recipient of such behaviors, the Bible is also clear of our responses.

We forgive!!!

Matthew 6:14-15 ESV

"For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

And circle straight back to where we began this mini sermonette. It merits repeating.

Ephesians 4:31-32 ESV

"Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

It's hard work. I wont lie and tell you it's easy. Check yourself first. Make it right with God, repent and turn from your sin. Be forgiven and then be free from the weight. This is life and death. It's vital to your relationship with Christ and to the body of Christ.

Where do you stand today? Is your heart pure or full of Evil? Do what you need to do to get it right. Seek purity. Seek to be like Christ. Be a peacemaker, a people builder, life changers and a friend to all.

Spiritual Spring Cleaning It's always a good time to begin

Kasey Parrott



Spring is officially now upon us. The thought of that perks our spirits, even if we must deal with lingering winter-like weather. Everything about spring breathes life and newness. Birds singing, plants popping up through the soil, a smell and feel of a fresh breeze blowing through an open house window, voices of children playing outside, outdoor walks or bike rides. I can't say for you, but with spring's arrival, I seem to walk taller, feel healthier, and sense a boost in my energy.

Spring is here and aren't we glad!

Spring is also a time when many conduct the annual ritual called spring cleaning, and we'll take on spring cleaning projects inside and outside our homes. We take stock of what needs cleaning, placed in order, or even removed. And we feel so good once that cleaning is accomplished, right?

The thought of conducting a spiritual spring cleaning also comes to mind. We can put so much time and effort into cleaning our worldly residences, shouldn't we also do some spiritual spring cleaning, when we take stock of our spiritual lives to clean up our hearts and souls, to desire of God like David desired in Psalm 51:10, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; restore within me a sense of being brand new."

If it seems the cold wintertime is lingering in your heart and soul and the sense of springtime joy is lacking, perhaps it's time to wade into the clutter and grime of your heart for a spiritual spring cleaning,

Elizabeth Allen, a writer for Guideposts, provides a nice cleaning guide entitled Spiritual Spring Cleaning in 4 Steps.

Scan for big problems you might have overlooked.

Take some time to think through the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:2-17). Are there any you're not living out fully? Culture makes it so easy to think of these as the Ten Suggestions, and we can get sucked right into that thinking. If you find you're tripping over one of these, confess it—and ask God to sweep, or spiritually spring clean, this sin away. Then take steps to fully live it out.

Dust off your irritations.

Think of the things (or people) that annoy you regularly and ask yourself if anything is going on in your own heart that contributes to the problem. To do your spiritual spring cleaning, let go of the negative things in your life and invite the positive ones in–like peace, hope, and love.

Consider the clutter of your days.

What could you fling from your life that's cluttering your relationship with God? One TV show a day? A tidbit of gossip when you get together with friends? An indulgence that might be cultivating a spirit of selfishness?

Contemplate what's lacking.

What we fail to do often depletes our spiritual health as much as what we do wrong. We want to be among those to whom Christ says, "...for when I was hungry, you fed Me. And when I was thirsty, you gave Me something to drink. I was alone as a stranger, and you welcomed Me into your homes and into your lives. I was naked, and you gave Me clothes to wear; I was sick, and you tended to My needs; I was in prison, and you comforted Me." (Matthew 25:35-36). As you do your spiritual spring cleaning, think of what more you can do in your life to help others and live with spiritual wellbeing.

Challenge: Let the spiritual spring cleaning begin!



Eyes Wide Open

By Patty Dotterer

Give us eyes wide open So we can see Who you truly are Lord Jesus, please

You walked on water This is true There is no other Quite like you

You spoke to the storm "Peace, be still" Water into wine As the jars were filled

God is your Father You are His Son Come into our hearts So we can be one

Eyes wide open So we can see Your plan for our lives Forever to be



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