

# Trumpet OF THE LORD

*"I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: Ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence."*  
ISAIAH 62:6

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## EDITORIAL

*"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it..." (Isa. 35:1,2).*

What a beautiful promise! It is a promise of transformation from utter devastation to total efflorescence; from barren, arid fruitlessness to a blossoming Carmel experience; from the depth of ravage (chapter 34) to heights of Lebanon (chapter 35). Is there any limit to what God can do for His children?

'Lebanon' is the focus of our study in this article. In the verse quoted above, 'Lebanon' refers to a mountain range in the north of Palestine. The scenery of the western slopes of Lebanon is most varied and magnificent and has greatly impressed the imagination of the Hebrew poets. The average elevation of the range is from 6000 to 8000 feet; but two peaks rise considerably higher. Though snow is common in Palestine in winter (Psa. 147:16), it remains in patches on the summits of both these peaks during the whole summer. It is given the name **Lebanon** (meaning 'white') on account of either the snow or the white colour of its limestone cliffs and peaks. It is therefore known as the 'white mountain' - the Mont Blanc - of Palestine.

Our spiritual growth is often compared to a mountain climb. Saints in both the Old



and New Testaments had precious and unforgettable mountain-top experiences. 'White Mountain' speaks of the experience of growing in God's holiness. The word 'holiness' in relation to God refers chiefly to the moral perfection of His character. God is separate from all that is evil and defiled (Job 34:10). Holiness is His chief attribute and a quality to be developed in His people. Even in the Old Testament God demanded holiness in the lives of His people. Through Moses, God said to Israel, *"You shall be holy; for I the LORD your God am holy"* (Lev. 19:2, RSV). The holiness described in the Old Testament was often merely external or ceremonial. The priests and Levites

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were sanctified by an outward ritual, as were the Nazarites (Num. 6:1-21). Nonetheless, like the seraphim in Isaiah's vision, all saints in the Old Testament worshipped the holiness of God. For all of eternity, they will continue to worship God in holy adoration. "And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come" (Rev. 4:8).

Saints of the New Testament have a greater revelation of God's holiness than saints of the Old Testament. The New Testament Greek equivalent of the common Hebrew word for holiness signifies an inner state of freedom from moral fault and a relative harmony with the moral perfection of God. In the New Testament, holiness also characterizes Christ's Church. The apostle

Paul taught that Christ loved the Church and died for its holiness. "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" (Eph. 5:26, 27). Peter addressed the Church as "a holy nation" (1 Pet. 2:9).

Coming back to the promise in Isaiah 35:2, we read " ...the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it... ". Let us, first of all, recall that Lebanon means White Mountain. 'It' in the verse above, refers to 'the desert' of verse 1. The 'desert' here refers to the state of the Israelites when they forsook God (the details of which are re-

corded in chapter 34). Nations destitute of the knowledge of God are called a 'wilderness' (Heb. 'midbar'; e.g., Isa. 32:15). This is exactly what is happening in the world today. Humanistic ideology is sweeping through nations like an epidemic transforming the world into a God-hating and God-rejecting planet. Where God is rejected, sin increases. This has had a damaging influence on churches already. Many churches have grown cold and become destitute of the knowledge of God. Maybe we are feeling the effects of it too. Our personal lives too could have been affected. But in the midst of such global apostasy, God promises He will give us the glory of Lebanon. This desert shall have all 'the glory of Lebanon'

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God wants the Church to be built of holiness in such a way that everything within it reflects the glory of His holiness.

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given to it. The height of this glory is seen on top of the Mountain.

God is calling us to climb the White Mountain to attain this glory. Moses

reached the top of Mount Sinai and beheld the glory of God and was covered with that glory. John was carried by the Spirit to the top of a mountain to see the glory of New Jerusalem. Jesus appeared glorious as He communed with His Father atop a mount. We too must make for the heights of White Mountain where alone we can see His glory.

Mountain climbing is a special calling. Many literal mountain climbers have testified that they attempted this feat simply because the mountains were calling out to them. Spiritually, mountain climbing is a call to a high life; in that sense, it is a rejection of the world. White Mountain climbers will strike no balance with

the world. They will make no deals or concessions with people who reject the very character of God. The primary Old Testament word for holiness means 'to cut' or 'to separate.' Fundamentally, holiness is a cutting off or separation from what is unclean and a consecration to what is pure. Refusing to compromise with the world is a very important decision that will help us climb up the Mountain of Lebanon. Jerusalem was built of materials from Lebanon. So also, God wants the Church to be built of holiness in such a way that everything within it reflects the glory of His holiness. Indeed, God is holy and Heaven is holy. He sits upon His holy Throne upon the Mountain of holiness. His angels are holy, His Word is holy, and His standard is holy. We, His

people, are therefore called to partake of His holiness. Everything in the Church should reflect His holiness. Though many

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Christians are compromising their standards in order to cope with the sudden moral declension in the world, the true Christian who is part of the militant Church must continue climbing the White Mountain.

### **Special Feet to Climb White Mountain**

It is never easy to climb a mountain. Many climbers have met their death in their effort to climb. But many saints have reached the top unscathed. The problem is that our feet are not accustomed to the rough mountain side; we easily stumble over rocks and crags. We need hind's feet. "He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places" (Psa. 18:33). Hinds' feet refer to

the feet of deer or mountain goats that are specially designed for mountain terrain. With such feet, they are able to lithe-ly outrun dangerous predators. They can gracefully leap over boulders and rocks and reach the high places.

In Habakkuk 3:16, the prophet Habakkuk feels his legs shaking and his heart pounding. Naturally, he should find a safe place to sit down and relax, but Habakkuk began to bound up the mountain like a deer! He explains, "The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places..." (Hab. 3:19). He was sure-footed as a deer and was able to run swiftly and go higher than he had ever gone before.

The rear feet of the hind step in precisely the same spot where the front feet have just been. Every motion of the hind is followed through with single-focused consistency, making it the most sure-footed of all mountain animals. Hind's feet are equal. They are perfect feet. But our feet are not equal implying we are lame. "The legs of the lame are not equal..." (Pro. 26:7). What are these 'two legs'? They speak of the life of purity and humility we require to climb Lebanon, the White Mountain. Just as we use our physical legs in our attempt to walk or climb, we must use our spiritual legs of purity and humility. Any step of holiness will be preceded and succeeded by a step of humility. Only humble people can be made pure and the pure must be kept humble; otherwise their pride will make them fall. So, when God does a work of purity in us, He breaks us and does not allow us to feel

that we are holy so that we do not become critical of others.

Hermon is the loftiest peak of the Lebanon range. "As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion..." (Psa. 133:3). 'Hermon' itself means 'devoted mountain'. It refers to people who have devoted themselves to the heights of Lebanon. Holiness is their passion. They long for the immediate presence of God. Mount Zion is the Mountain of God's holiness or 'White Mountain'. Mount Zion is the loftiest peak of the mountains of Jerusalem, just like Mount Everest is the highest peak of the Himalayan range. The saints who reach Mount Zion will be the most humble and most holy. Their legs would be perfectly equal.

The dew of Hermon speaks of the refreshing purity that adorns the lives of the saints of God who will live eternally with Him on Mount Zion. They are those who have attained perfect purity in their minds. But this dew 'descends'!(vs 3). This refers to the humility of such saints who stand with Jesus on Mount Zion. Thus, they have both legs equal! They will bear the Father's Name (purity) and the Son's Name (humility) on their foreheads.

The lame struggle to climb. Some are lame from birth (like the lame man at the

temple in Acts 3) while others become lame at some stage in their life, like Mephibosheth.

Dear child of God, do you feel you are lame? Is one leg longer than the other? Do you feel that you are lame from your mother's womb or do you feel that, like Mephibosheth, you have become lame because of some situation in your past? Indeed, some blame nature while others blame their nurture. But what is God's promise in that amazing chapter of Isaiah? "Then those who are lame will leap like deer, and those who cannot speak will shout for joy. Water will gush out into the desert, and streams will gush out into the wilderness. Then the hot sand will become a pool, and dry ground will have springs..." (Isa. 35:6, 7, God's Word). Indeed, God is able to give hinds' feet to those who are willing to confess they are lame. He will strengthen the lame and make him leap as an antelope!

The snow-capped White Mountain glistens and sparkles in the noon-day sun. A voice calls out to us, inviting us not to just stand gazing but to climb the Mountain. Footprints, of saints gone before, mark the ancient pathway up the Mountain. Oh, would not God be glorified as many who were once lame now begin to climb like mountain deer? So, let us go up White Mountain!

**E**DELWEISS is a small perennial herb of the aster family whose pure white blossom must be sought after, since it nestles in the highest snowy crags of the Alps. Edelweiss is a compound word which in German means 'noble and white.' It is so absolutely white that it blends perfectly with its environment, losing its identifying characteristics completely in its surroundings. Even when picked and pressed in paper for preservation, it remains free from discoloration for many years. If we would be like the edelweiss, we must keep ourselves pure and noble, striving to attain the heights with God. Then, as He keeps us pure in heart and motive, He will enable us to accept with humility the loss of our own status in the scope of His larger landscape.



*"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Psa. 85:6).*

**A**lthough the Lord had arranged for the North London assembly to have special days set apart for Revival Meetings, it could be said that God began His work of renewing His people months before that. The Revival Meetings were only to act as an extra boost in the midst of God's outpouring. This year, from the time we began the preparations, we could clearly see the hand of God. Firstly, as a church, God led us into a twenty-four hour prayer chain. **Prayer is the fuel for the fire of God.** This prayer chain continued throughout the days of the Revival Meetings. The Lord also took over the transport, accommodation, and the catering arrangements, leaving us more free to evangelise. We had an open-air meeting the week before the Revival Meetings. Thousands of tracts and invitations were printed and distributed after much prayer. Definitely we could hear "the rustle in the mulberry trees" and we knew that the move was on. As a result the Lord ushered in many precious souls in need of salvation, healing and deliverance. God's servants were available to minister to their needs as they led them to confess their sins and say the sinner's prayer. God blessed the time of praise and worship releasing our hearts to magnify and exalt the Lord. As we did so, the glory of God descended, refreshing us as we drank of the Holy Spirit. God raised

up living testimonies that revealed God's power to change situations and lives. Even the person who was appointed to cover our event at the Centre was greatly touched and participated in the meetings, even the Saturday, late night prayer meeting. As one mighty army, loving and defending the truth, the people of God, young and old worked by faith and laboured with love for the glory of God. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Psa. 133:1). The best was yet to come.

Our God, above all our preparations, was preparing the finest of wheat for us whereby we could be further strengthened and encouraged. From the first meeting on Friday evening the Lord started to reveal His precious counsel. We were woken up with the 'good news' that Jesus brought. "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword" (Matt. 10:34), and again "I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? ... Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you Nay; but rather division" (Lk. 12:49-51). Yes Jesus came to reveal something new and shake His people out of their apathy into the realization of their urgent need for true salvation. Jesus came, not to send peace, but a sword that pierces and cuts, and fire, that burns and consumes. We were clearly made to understand the power and preciousness of the Word of God, which like a two-edged sword pierced our hearts, convicted our

souls and revealed our true state. We can submit to the piercing of the Word of God and come to true repentance and brokenness or we can despise the Word of God as it cuts us and rebel against those who bring it to us.

The 'fire' speaks of the fire of the Holy Ghost that is able to burn or mortify all our vile natures and consume all that is carnal (fleshly) in us. When we lay ourselves on the altar as a living sacrifice, then the fire of the Holy Ghost can freely work in our lives, consuming the things of the world; the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life. Our whole outlook, our way of thinking, our aims and desires will change. God will work in us, making us a holy and humble people. Filled with the fire of God's love, we will seek the eternal things of God and the higher, heavenly life that God has for us. We will be sanctified or set apart for Him and be made acceptable in His sight.

On Saturday evening, the message was about the Old Testament Tabernacle and how it reveals God's purpose concerning us in this New Testament period. God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt, the house of bondage, with a great deliverance. They crossed the Red Sea, came into the wilderness and camped at the foot of Mt. Sinai. The Lord called Moses to come up the Mount and asked them to make Him a sanctuary that He might dwell among them (Exo. 25:8). It is God's desire to dwell with man now and all through Eternity. Man must understand this purpose of God and seek Him in order to dwell with Him.

Having received the pattern of the Tabernacle, Moses engaged certain skillful people to build it according to God's plan. God also gave them instructions as

to how they must pitch their tents around the Tabernacle in an orderly manner. The Tabernacle is a shadow of heavenly things, the true Tabernacle in Eternity (Heb. 8:5). God also outlined the details of those who could enter the different parts of the Tabernacle.

All the **circumcised Israelites** had the right to enter the court of the Tabernacle. The circumcised Jews represent the saved people in the New Testament, who are included in the family of God (Rom. 2:28, 29). From this, it is very clear that we need to be saved and also preserve this salvation till the end, to have a place in heaven. The **Levites** entered into the court to do their ministry. The Levites had no inheritance with the other tribes of Israel. They were zealous to execute God's judgement. In the New Testament, they represent the Spirit-baptized children of God, who love not their kith and kin more than God. The Levites were taken from among the children of Israel in the place of all the firstborn (Num. 3:1-3). Even so, a group of people in the New Testament have received the firstfruits of the Spirit and are seen as the firstborn in God's sight. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a unique experience. Through this, they have a foretaste of Heaven and are able to confess that they are strangers and pilgrims in this world (Heb. 11:13,14). The **Priests** were a group of people separated from among the Levites and anointed to minister in the Holy Place. They represent the anointed Servants of God of the New Testament, who have separated themselves from all the carnal and earthly ties, in order to minister to the Church in the priest's office (Lk. 14:26). They are willing to count all as loss and prepare the Church for the Com-

ing of the Lord (Lk. 14:33, Mk. 10:28-30). The **High Priest**, the chief of the kingdom of Priests, alone entered the Most Holy Place once a year. He represents the Lord Jesus Christ, who is our High Priest and Apostle (Heb. 3:1). We can have an intimate fellowship with Him in the Most Holy Place. Jesus wants us to be with Him in the Most Holy Place, where He dwells in Eternity.

The High Priest wore the Breastplate of Judgement. The Urim and Thummim were put in the pouch of the Breastplate of Judgement. Urim and Thummim literally means Light and Perfection. They were a means to know God's mind at various situations. The Breastplate of Righteousness in the New Testament (Eph. 6:14) is also called the Breastplate of Faith and Love (1 Thess. 5:8). With this we can withstand all that comes against us and grow in the character of Christ. We will grow in the judgement of God or the discernment that God gives us, and finally be found sincere and without offence at the Coming of the Lord (Phil. 1:9,10).

On Sunday Morning the Word of God reflected the cry of everyone gathered. Our cry was, "*Wilt thou not revive us again that thy people may rejoice in thee?*" (Psa. 85:6). We understood 'to revive' is to 'make alive' or 'to raise from the dead'. We heard of Lazarus, who was sick and later died (Lk. Chap. 11). Jesus went to his sepulchre and brought him back to life. We can die 'spiritually' when we are careless in our spiritual life and do not obey God because we become open to the snares of the devil. God is able to restore our zeal and set us on fire even if we are in such a dead state. For

this to happen we need to take time to search our life, and find out how we went from God and ask for forgiveness from the Lord.

We heard about the reformations brought about by King Hezekiah. He opened the doors of the house of the Lord and cleansed it (2 Chron. Chap. 29). He confessed the sins of the people and made a firm decision to follow the Lord. Even so we have to truly repent, confess our faults (1 Jn. 1:7) and take a sincere step to turn away from evil. New life comes through being restored in our relationship with God and the Word of God.

Revival is not just a spiritual injection we receive through camps, conventions and revival meetings. We need to long for something lasting. We need to desire for the very depths of God's holiness. We should seek for a revival that will never come to an end. For this to happen we have to take new steps to consecrate our lives to do God's will, to have a fervent prayer life and be consistent in reading the Word of God. We should also live by the Word of God to keep up the revival which God has given. If we give full liberty for God to work in our lives, we can grow in this life of holiness, and His character will be formed in us.

We praise God for the light and direction He gave us concerning His desire to revive and perfect us. May God help us to rise up in faith and claim the exceeding great and precious promises concerning our lives, our Church and this land and expect a miracle when we pray. Surely the Lord will not fail. Please pray that the revival may continue, keeping us ready to meet our Jesus when He comes. All glory be to God.



## The DANGERS of Spiritual Sleep

*"Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light" (Eph. 5:14).*

In his epistle to the Ephesians, St. Paul reminds them how God had chosen them even before the foundation of the world and they who were once darkness and were dead in sins and trespasses, had now been saved by the grace of God (Eph. 5:8; 2:1,5,8). They who sometimes were far off had now been brought nigh by the blood of Christ (Eph. 2:13). Now they were no more strangers and foreigners, but by the Baptism of the Holy Spirit had become fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God and were being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets (Eph. 2:19,20). Having the ministry of such true consecrated servants of God they were growing spiritually and were getting ready for the Coming of the Lord Jesus (Eph. 4:11-13). In the midst of such a vibrant church, St. Paul spotted some who were spiritually asleep and warned them saying, *"...Awake thou that sleepest..."* (Eph. 5:14).

Spiritual sleep is very dangerous. If we are found spiritually asleep when Jesus comes, we will be left behind. Jesus illustrates this point through the parable of the ten virgins (Matt. 25:1-13). While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept and had to go through the night (period of tribulation). At the end of this parable Jesus gave a stern warning say-

ing, *"Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh"* (Matt. 25:13). Spiritual sleep will lead to spiritual poverty. *"Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man"* (Pro. 6:10,11).

The Word of God also says, *"...they that sleep sleep in the night..."* (1Thess. 5:7). Night shows a **life of sin**. Those living in sin are under the power of darkness. Night can also show an **unsanctified life**. Behind every evil nature such as pride, anger and lust there is a power of darkness at work. If we allow these powers to dominate us, they will put us to spiritual sleep. Night also shows an experience of **going through various trials of faith**. When we go through such night like experiences, others will not be able to see us (understand us or help us). In fact, we may even be misunderstood. To emerge victorious in such trials, we must be diligent to keep the presence of God with us and hold fast to the promises God has given us, or else this "night" of trials can cause us to be weary and put us to sleep in our spiritual lives.

Let us now consider the life of Elijah, an Old Testament man of God who went into a deep sleep. Though we see Elijah in a physical sleep, as we study the situations that led him to sleep, we can see that he was in a state of spiritual sleep as well. From this we can learn some very

important lessons about the dangers of spiritual sleep.

Elijah was a mighty man of God who stopped rain from heaven and when he prayed again, God sent rain. He was such a mighty man that he could bring down fire from heaven and prove that Jehovah is the only true God (1 Kgs. chap. 18). But this mighty man of God, after performing all these mighty feats is seen in a deep sleep (1 Kgs. chap. 19). First, let us consider the reasons that led him into such a deep sleep and then we will see how God mercifully brought him out of that miserable state.

When Jezebel heard that Elijah had destroyed the prophets of Baal, she sent a messenger to him saying, *"...So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time"* (1 Kgs. 19:2). On hearing this challenge from Jezebel, Elijah was gripped with fear and he arose and fled for his life and came to Beersheba. **Fear** was the initial cause for Elijah to go into a deep sleep. There is a power of darkness working behind fear. We need to allow the Holy Spirit to shed abroad God's love in our hearts so that we could be kept free from all fear and consequently be kept from spiritual sleep. *"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear..."* (1 Jn. 4:18). The challenge that Jezebel placed before Elijah could be compared to the challenge the devil places before us against our victorious life. Though Jezebel is no more, the spirit of Jezebel is still working vehemently against the overcoming Church. This spirit of Jezebel is a seducing spirit (Rev. 2:20-22). God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit helps us to destroy this spirit and emerge as overcomers.

On hearing the challenge of Jezebel, Elijah understood that if he fled to Beersheba his life could be preserved. Even so, when we face various challenges of the enemy, we can come to Beersheba and be relieved of all our fears and doubts. Though Elijah came to Beersheba, unfortunately, he did not remain there. He himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and sat under a juniper tree and was later found sleeping (1 Kgs. 19:3-5). Let us consider the blessings found at Beersheba so that we can be encouraged to remain there and be preserved from all the onslaughts of the enemy.

**1. Beersheba Is a Place Of Covenant** (Gen. 21:31,32). 'Beersheba' means 'The well of oath' or 'The well of covenant'. That was the place where Jacob's forefathers, Abraham and Isaac, had made covenants with the Lord (Gen. 21:31-33; 26:23-25). Jacob renewed his covenant with the Lord there by offering sacrifices (Gen. 46:1). A covenant is an agreement between two or more individuals or groups. In our lives, we enter into a covenant with our God when we are saved. We were willing to confess and forsake our sinful past and live a life of holiness (Pro. 28:13). From then on, with every step of our spiritual life, we make more covenants with our God. When fears and doubts come, we must go to Beersheba, the place where we entered into a covenant with our God and examine ourselves to find out if we have broken any of the decisions, consecrations or vows we have made before God. If so, we need to humble ourselves and with true repentance from the heart, ask the Lord to forgive us. Then the Lord will forgive us and cleanse us so that we can be bold to face the chal-

lence of the enemy. Our God is a faithful God. He says, "My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips" (Psa. 89:34). Our covenant keeping God is there in Beersheba but where are we found? Let us get back to Beersheba and our God will help us overcome the enemy.

**2. In Beersheba There Is a Tree** (Gen. 21:33). In Beersheba Abraham planted a grove ('Tree' in the margin) in Beersheba. This tree shows the Tree of Life, our Lord Jesus Christ (Rev. 22:2). The Bride compares her Bridegroom (Jesus) to an Apple Tree and says, "As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste" (SoS. 2:3). The fruit of this tree is sweet, and the tree itself is large and dense, affording welcome shade. We can find in Him shelter from the burning sun and a place of refreshing rest. We can sit under His shadow with great delight and without any fear. Coming under His shadow shows our secret and intimate relationship with Him (Psa. 91:1). He knows very well the cause of our fears: our distrust sprang from our ignorance of His love. Now through the intimacy with Him, He has revealed the depths of His love and removed all our fears. 'Apples', as used in the Bible, represent the Word of God, which is sweet to our taste. "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (Psa. 119:103). Meditating on Him and His words makes this life even more sweet (Psa. 104:34). If we remain under this Tree of Life at Beersheba, victory is ours for sure.

**3. In Beersheba There Is Water** (Gen. 26:32,33). "We have found water!" exclaimed Isaac's servants when they had dug a well in Beersheba. This water found in Beersheba can be compared to the rivers of living waters that our Lord Jesus referred to when talking about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 7:37-39). In Beersheba we can drink of this water and quench the thirst of our soul. We will no longer be weary. We do not have to be satisfied with the initial experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit alone. As we remain in Beersheba we can have the continual experience of being under the anointing, never to be weary again. The Psalmist speaks of being anointed with 'fresh oil' (Psa.92:10). David had this experience and so he had the courage to say, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; ... thou anointest my head with oil..." (Psa. 23:4,5). The Spirit of God who was with him helped him prevail over his enemies. He took diligent care to see that the Spirit of God departed not from him. As a result, his name was 'much set by' (1 Sam. 18:30) and he saw prosperity all the days of his life. In the same manner, the anointing helps us subdue and prevail over our enemies (2 Cor.10:4,5).

**4. In Beersheba We See a Servant** (1 Kgs. 19:3). Elijah left his servant behind in Beersheba when he fled into the wilderness. This servant in Beersheba can be compared to the consecrated servants of God who are the apostolic ministers of the New Testament Church. It is the God of heaven and earth who has given us these consecrated servants of God (Ezra 5:11). God has given us His servants in the

Church to give us the whole counsel of God and guide us in this life. They are called, chosen, anointed and separated by God for this glorious and honourable ministry. They are not appointed by man but they are ordained by God. The servants of God are seen in the right hand of God (Rev. 1:16,20). God is upholding them. Beersheba can be compared to the New Testament Church where we can find provision, protection and corrections that are needed for our spiritual edification and growth. If we have neglected the fellowship of such true apostolic ministers of the New Testament Church, let us run back to Beersheba without any further delay and be united with the servant of God who is there.

**5. Beersheba Belongs To Judah** (1 Kgs. 19:3) 'Judah' means 'Praising'. While naming him, Judah's mother said, "...Now will I praise the Lord..." (Gen. 29:35). Beersheba shows an experience of offering continual praises to our God. David said, "I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth" (Psa. 34:1). When the enemy challenges us, we can turn the battle to the gate (Isa. 28:6). Gates speak of praise (Isa. 60:18). As we lift up those praises (gates), the King of Glory, our Lord Jesus comes in to fight for us and gives us the victory. He is the Lord of Hosts, the Lord strong and mighty in battle (Psa. 24:7-9).

When challenged by Jezebel, Elijah made the right choice of fleeing to Beersheba. He knew his life would be preserved there. Though he went to Beersheba, he did not remain there. He **himself** went into the wilderness. When we are ruled by our 'self', we will leave

all the experiences and blessings of Beersheba and go into a dry patch and finally be found sleeping under the juniper tree of doubt and discouragement. "But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers" (1 Kgs. 19:4). Sitting under the juniper tree having lost all hope, Elijah said, 'It is enough' and wished to die. When we walk according to our own will, leaving the blessings of God behind, we will get discouraged and we will lack the inner strength to continue any further. We will confess like Elijah saying 'It is enough'. Elijah who sat under the juniper tree fell into a deep sleep. **Discouragement** can lead to spiritual sleep and if we continue in that sleep, it will lead to spiritual death.

Though Elijah had landed himself in such a miserable state, God in His mercy sent His angel. The angel of the Lord woke him up and fed him so that he could be strengthened and continue his journey. In the same way, God sends His messengers, the servants of God to bring us out of our deep spiritual sleep. He sends His Word to feed us and anoints us afresh with the Living Waters. Elijah went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God. Let us also take heed to the wake-up call God gives us through His servants and receive strength in our inner man by the spiritual meat and drink provided for us. We can then continue our spiritual journey until we reach our eternal abode, Zion and New Jerusalem.

In the last issue, the Israelites came to the camp at Moseroth (Num. 33:30). The meaning of Moseroth is 'Bond' or 'Fetter'. It speaks of the experience of being bound together in unity.

In each of his epistles, St. Paul exhorts the different churches to be united. The unity of the New Testament is a spiritual bond that makes God's children one in heart and mind, binding them together so strongly that there is no distinction whatsoever among them. *"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment"* (1 Cor. 1:10). To make this possible, Jesus had to die for us (Eph. 2:14-18). Unity is so important, that in the New Testament, more attention is given to unity than to Heaven or Hell.

On the day of Pentecost, the people were of one accord and in one place. However, that was still only the Old Testament unity. But when the Spirit was poured out, they were united in a totally unprecedented way. They became one body, the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13). True unity is the soul of Christian fellowship. It is the essence, the core, of life in a church. St. Paul says, *"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace"* (Eph. 4:3, NIV). Christ paid the highest price for the Church. He wants it to be protected from the devastating damage that is caused by division. Though there are differences in colour, education and culture in the world, in order to live in true unity, we must lose the pride of nationality, the pride of religiosity and the pride of language, colour, education and culture. At each step

of salvation, God does a work of unification by destroying everything that divides us. This process continues until we are caught up, as 'one' Bride, at the Coming of the Lord. Let us, therefore, who have come to Moseroth make this surrender to the Lord that He might be able to do this work.

From Moseroth, the Israelites reached the camp at **Benejaakan** (Num. 33:31).

Benejaakan means 'twist'. There is strength in a twist. When a rope is twisted, it becomes strong. *"...three cords twisted together are not quickly broken"* (Eccl. 4:12, BBE).



#### (A BIBLE STUDY ON THE JOURNEY OF THE ISRAELITES)

***"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."***  
**(1 Corinthians 10:11)**

The 'twist' also reminds us of the movement of the snake which moves by muscular contraction, aided by elongated scales on its abdomen; it twists or winds in a sinuous manner. From the delicacy of its form, its movements are necessarily extremely agile; so that, doubling itself up several times, it can spring to a considerable distance, with great swiftness. It can twine and twist itself, most readily, and nimbly, around trees or other such bodies; climbing, or descending, or suspending itself, with the utmost facility.

Jesus said that we must be wise as serpents (Mat. 10:16). Serpents have always been an emblem of wisdom and cunning (Gen. 3:1). The Egyptians used the serpent in their hieroglyphics as a symbol of wisdom. Jesus might probably have been referring to the wisdom of a serpent in its caution in avoiding danger. No animal equals a snake in the rapidity and skill that it evinces in escaping danger. This wisdom is our strength. The Bible says that wisdom is better than strength (Eccl. 9:16). *"Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty men which are in the city"* (Eccl. 7:19).

*"Wisdom is better than weapons of war..."* (Eccl. 9:18). One, a poor man, by wisdom delivered a city! (Eccl. 9:15).

We see this special wisdom in the saints. *"With the ancient is wisdom..."* (Job 12:12). Jesus was full of this wisdom. He had this wisdom as a child (Lk. 2:40). As He grew older, His wisdom too grew (Lk. 2:52). Later, His words and His actions revealed His wisdom. He was careful about what He said. His enemies could not catch Him in His words or His deeds. St. Paul had this wisdom too. He escaped

difficult situations through this wisdom. There was a time in the Old Testament, when both Samuel and David had one common enemy – Saul, but both of them escaped Saul's evil designs through wisdom.

We need caution and wisdom in the midst of a world that seeks our lives. We must be both wise to escape and harmless not to provoke others. We also need to be wise as serpents in order to know how to deal with Satan, the Old Serpent. When Satan met Eve in the garden, he began to deal with her craftily. He made suggestions that provoked her to think. That was her mistake – she lent her 'mind' to Satan. In the end, she was deceived. St. Paul feared that would happen to the believers of his time. *"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve in his craftiness, your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity and the purity that is toward Christ"* (2 Cor. 11:3, ASV).

Satan used a serpent to deceive Eve; today he might use a clever person who talks slyly. It is wise not to meditate on what Satan suggests to us. When what is said contradicts the truth, then we must not dwell on it.

Wisdom makes us say the right thing; and sometimes, wisdom makes us keep silent. *"In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise"* (Pro. 10:19). *"Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding"* (Pro. 17:28). Jesus did not pause to think about what the devil said; He answered him immediately from the Word of God. At other times, Jesus wisely maintained silence.

What is this wisdom? How do we obtain it? It is not an intellectual asset at-

tained through education. Such worldly wisdom is merely foolishness in God's sight (1 Cor. 1:18). The wisdom of this world only makes us proud. The wisdom we are talking about is not merely a scholarly knowledge of the word of God. The wisdom that we are studying about is a moral rather than an intellectual quality. It is a wisdom that we apply in our practical lives. This wisdom comes from growth in character. "He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous..." (Pro. 2:7). Until we grow in our character, we will not understand this wisdom. It comes from the fear of the Lord (Job 28:28), from purity of life (Jas. 3:17) and from meekness (Jas. 3:13). These are three essential qualities we must possess in order to be wise as serpents. When we fear the Lord, we will avoid sin and thereby preserve a good conscience. However, this should not make us proud; pride will make us lose this wisdom. We must, therefore, have the third quality of meekness in order to preserve this wisdom.

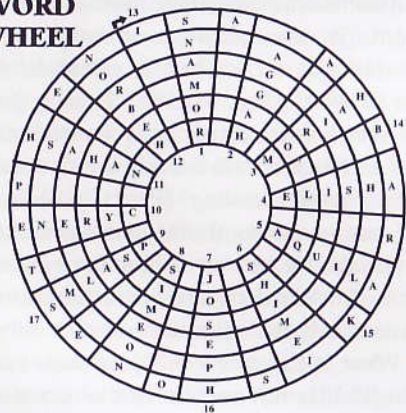
This wisdom is essential especially in the service of God. King Solomon knew the daunting task that faced him when he became king. Therefore, he did not care to ask for riches or honour; instead, he chose wisdom to guide the people. Joshua received this wisdom through the laying on of hands in order to lead God's people. "And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him:" (Deut. 34:9).

We are in the last days. We need wisdom to make the right use of each day. We need therefore to number our days and realize the brevity of life. "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psa. 90:12). Our days are few. Every day is precious and must not be wasted. "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." (Eph. 5:16). When Jesus lived in this world, He lived with the understanding that He had limited time to fulfil His Father's will (Jn. 9:4). May the Lord help us live wisely in this world that we may avoid the pitfalls Satan plants in our way.

(To be continued...)

### Solutions to Last Issue's Puzzle

#### WORD WHEEL



## Liverpool Revival Meetings 2009

Praise God for His great mercies whereby we were able to conduct another Revival Meeting in Liverpool, a stronghold of Catholicism and a football mad city. Don't forget that "Beatle Mania" also originated here in the 1960. However, as Liverpool is a dockland, it is also a city from where many missionaries have travelled to different parts of the globe.

The Revival Meetings were held for three days from 20<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. With the understanding that Jesus had died for the precious souls in Liverpool, we challenged the enemy as we started our preparation with prayer. All around the world, people joined us to earnestly seek the Lord with faith and prayer. We could feel the battle was on, as obstacles came our way. But God began to move these seemingly great mountains thus encouraging us all the more to put our trust in the Lord. One such obstacle was that the school where we were going to hold our meetings suddenly limited our time there making it impossible to serve meals after services. But the very next day, through prayer, the authorities gave us permission. This favour with the authorities continued throughout the meetings as they gave us the use of many other facilities we had not requested and did everything possible to help us run things smoothly and efficiently. They even put our invitation on their notice board and said they will be encouraging others in the school to attend our meetings.

God brought people from all parts of UK, including Scotland. Many new souls came from Liverpool seeking a deeper walk with the Lord. Several expressed their desire to continue following the Lord in the apostolic fellowship. Some expressed their desire to take water baptism. One young man said that he had come with many questions but God had given him an answer to every question.

On Saturday afternoon we had a special time of prayer for adults and children separately. Some children received the Holy Spirit while others confessed their sins with tears, seeking forgiveness from the Lord.

The first message on Friday night was based on Psalm 103:5. "Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." The message centred on the many qualities of the eagle. The eagle waits on a high rock for thermal winds to help it soar to the heights. God has called us to be eagle saints. We need to wait upon the Lord to renew our strength. In order to escape pests like crows, the eagle flies upward to a height where the crows cannot survive. In Proverbs 30:18,19, we read of the eagle in the air and the serpent on the rock. Serpents love to eat eagles' eggs. So, they make their way over rocks and reach the nest. When there is a revival, Satan, the Old Serpent, comes to take away the new work that God has started in our lives. The mother eagle has very sharp eyesight. The moment she sees the serpent, she swoops on it and grabbing it with her



talons, flies high up into the sky from where she hurls the serpent upon a rock and kills it. Yes, let us go to our Rock, Jesus who will rescue us from the devil.

In the second message on Saturday evening, God spoke to us from 1 Corinthians 15:57. "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Without Jesus there is no victory. God never created us to be failures. Just as an eagle is born to fly, to fight and to win, so also God wants us to be victorious through our Lord Jesus Christ. If God has to do a work in us, we have to first remember that God loves us. To feel that God is angry with us is the lie of the devil. Jesus loved us and died for us and He is Lord and every knee has to bow. He is the Truth that can set us free. The blind man in Mark 10:46, went on crying to Jesus for his healing. He cast away his garment that identified him as blind, and came with faith to Jesus even before he was healed. Let us come to Jesus by faith. Yes, Jesus paid the price for our sins and sicknesses. But let us not stop there. Let us follow Him all the way, obeying His counsel in water baptism and receive the Holy Spirit that can guide

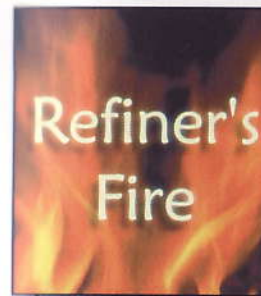
us to the end. If we seek God only for this world, we will be most miserable.

In the third message on Sunday morning, the text was 1 Corinthians 15:51,52 which speaks about the mystery of the Second Coming of Christ. The standard necessary to be ready was clearly expounded in the message. Repentance, Water Baptism, and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit which leads us to the experience of being 'in Christ', are the basic steps. They need to be followed by a life of watchfulness and prayer. We need to be drunk in the Holy Spirit and allow the Holy Spirit to prepare us. At the Rapture those who are ready will be caught up to meet Jesus in the air along with those who died in Christ. But sadly those who are left behind will have to face the tribulation. So, let us be eagle saints to fly and be caught up with Jesus.

In the Revival Meeting in Liverpool, the word of God went forth through preaching. A seed was sown in faith. May God give us the increase. Our prayer is that the people in this city of Liverpool, who are mad for football may fall madly in love with Jesus, Who died for them. All glory to God.

#### Parents Blunder When...

- They give their children everything they want.
- They laugh at a child when he does or says something wrong.
- They avoid the words 'no' and 'wrong'.
- They pick up after their children instead of giving them the responsibility of doing it.
- They take the side of their children against servants of God, teachers, and other responsible adults.
- They make every choice for their children.
- They bail them out of every situation instead of letting them face the consequences of their mistakes.
- They are over-protective, and do not allow their children to do normal and healthy things.
- They let their children talk back to them.
- They criticize others openly in front of their children.



*He sat by a fire of seven-fold heat,  
As He watched by the precious ore,  
And closer He bent with a searching gaze  
As He heated it more and more.  
He knew He had ore that could stand the test,  
And He wanted the finest gold  
To mould as a crown for the King to wear,  
Set with gems with a price untold.  
So He laid our gold in the burning fire,  
Tho' we fain would have said Him 'Nay,'  
And He watched the dross that we had not seen,  
And it melted and passed away.  
And the gold grew brighter and yet more bright,  
But our eyes were so dim with tears,  
We saw but the fire—not the Master's hand,  
And questioned with anxious fears.  
Yet our gold shone out with a richer glow,  
As it mirrored a Form above,  
That bent o'er the fire, tho' unseen by us,  
With a look of ineffable love.  
Can we think that it pleases His loving heart  
To cause us a moment's pain?  
Ah, no! but He saw through the present cross  
The bliss of eternal gain.  
So He waited there with a watchful eye,  
With a love that is strong and sure,  
And His gold did not suffer a bit more heat,  
Than was needed to make it pure.*

### Forthcoming Events

Mini Camp	1 <sup>st</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> May
Leicester Convention	21 <sup>st</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> May
Young Adults' Camp	12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> June
Longwy Convention	3 <sup>rd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> July

"...the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." (Acts 3:10)

# THE STORY

## Behind The Song

Philip P. Bliss

When 501-7098, 1 like

When peace like

### *It Is Well With My Soul*

*When peace, like a river attendeth my way,  
When sorrows, like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to know,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."*

*Though Satan should buffet, if trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.*

The year was 1871. Catastrophe struck Chicago when a great fire ravaged the Windy City. An attorney who had heavily invested in real estate, lost a fortune. His name was Horatio G. Spafford. About that time, his only son, aged four, died of scarlet fever. In order to drown his grief, Horatio poured himself into rebuilding the city and assisting the thousands whose homes had been destroyed by the fire.

In November of 1873, Horatio G. Spafford decided to take his wife and four daughters to Europe. He wanted to attend the evangelistic meetings of D.L. Moody and Ira Sankey in England, before enjoying a vacation.

An urgent matter changed Horatio's plans. He had to remain in New York. Though he was happy that his family

was travelling on a ship with Christian companions, some last-minute premonition made him change the cabin they occupied to one toward the bow of the vessel. Then he said his good-bye, promising to join them soon in France.

During the early hours of November 22, 1873, as the Ville du Havre glided over smooth seas, the passengers were suddenly jolted from their bunks. The ship had collided with an English iron sailing vessel, the "Lochearn". As water began to pour into the Ville du Havre, the French vessel began to tilt dangerously. The night air was rent by a cacophony of screams, prayers, and oaths as the passengers began their nightmare of unmeasured terror. Some clung to posts, others tumbled through darkness, and were swept away by powerful currents of the icy ocean. Loved ones fell from each other's grasp and disappeared into foaming blackness. Within two hours, the Ville du Havre, one of the largest ships, vanished beneath the waters. The two hundred and twenty six fatalities included Horatio's four daughters.

*My sin - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought -  
My sin - not in part, but the whole  
[Is nailed to His cross; and I bear it no more:  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul.*

His wife however was found nearly unconscious, clinging to a piece of the wreckage. Nine days later when the forty seven survivors landed in Cardiff, Wales, she cabled her husband: "Saved Alone." When Horatio received her message, he said to a dear friend, "I am glad to trust the Lord when it will cost me something."

Horatio immediately booked passage to join his wife. En route, on a cold December night, the captain called him aside and said, "I believe we are now passing over the place where the Ville Du Havre went down." Horatio went to his cabin. There in the mid-Atlantic, out of his heart-break and pain, he said to himself, "It is well; the will of God be done," and wrote the words of this famous hymn.

Later, at the request of Horatio, Philip Bliss set these words to music. On the

*For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live!  
If Jordan above me shall roll,  
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life  
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.*

*But Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,  
The sky, not the grave, is our goal  
Oh, trump of the angel! oh, voice of the Lord!  
Blessed hope! blessed rest of my soul.*

last Friday in November, 1876, Bliss introduced "It is well with my Soul" as a sacred solo at a gathering of a thousand ministers in Farwell Hall, Chicago. This hymn continues to live in the hearts of Christians today giving them comfort in times of suffering and a blessed hope beyond the grave.

### How Much of the Lord's Time Have You Stolen?

A young man who was working in a large department store, was told by his employer that he would be required to work on Sunday. It so happened that the hours assigned to him would have prevented his attending any of the worship services to which he had been accustomed to attending since childhood. The young man informed his employer that he would not be able to continue his work under these conditions, and his employer told him he would have to go.

A few days later, the young man answered an ad in the paper from a bank which had advertised a vacancy for a teller. In checking the young man's previous employers, the bank president contacted the department store head and inquired as to the boy's record and whether he could recommend him. The store manager replied, "Why, yes, I will be glad to recommend him. He will make you a good man. I just fired him a few days ago."

"Fired him?" the bank president exclaimed. "Why would you recommend a man whom you just recently dismissed from your service?" The store manager explained the circumstances under which the boy was released, and remarked, "I know he will make you a good man for your bank, because if he will not steal the Lord's time, he will not steal your money."

A PASSIONATE LOVER OF GOD

*"One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple" (Psa. 27:4).*

He lost his interest in the things of the world. His heart longed for Heaven. He wanted to be in the presence of God and with Jesus in Heaven. During his final moments on earth, he told his family not to worry because Jesus would take care of them. On November 8<sup>th</sup> 2008, Angelo went home.

Angelo Jebaranjan George, however, was not always like this. His testimony is about the marvellous work of grace which transformed an ordinary lover of the world into a passionate lover of God.

Angelo was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 1960, to God-fearing parents who belonged to this faith. He was brought up in the ways of God. Angelo received the Holy Spirit when he was a child and obeyed the Lord in the waters of Baptism when he was 14 years old. Angelo's father was a businessman and God blessed the family in every way. He excelled academically and his father wanted to send him to the UK for further studies. But when Angelo was 17 years old, his father passed away. Being the eldest of four siblings, Angelo had to take over his father's business. During this time he faced many difficulties and trials, but by the mercy of God and the prayers of the saints of God, he overcame them. The political situation in the country at that time led him to migrate to the UK. When he came to this country, he again went through many

difficulties, but the Lord was with him. God blessed him with a wife and two children. He worked very hard so that he could care for his mother and siblings and his young family. God never failed him!

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 1999, God took Angelo through a fiery trial. The Lord decided to take Angelo's only son, Jerome, to be with Him. Although it was a painful experience and a time of extreme sadness, Jesus was with him and his family. The Lord comforted them with these words "God never makes mistakes" because "As for God, his way is perfect..." (Psa. 18:30). God gave Angelo perfect peace, so he never questioned God. From then on, Heaven became more real to him and his family. God brought them closer to Him. Angelo firmly fixed his eyes on God and really sought to prepare himself to meet his Maker. God took them through many different paths to prove His faithfulness and His greatness.

Angelo dedicated his life to serve God in any way he could; nevertheless, he chose to remain hidden in Christ. He loved the servants of God and the work of God and was always willing to help the poor and the needy. God put in his heart a love for souls. One day, he approached the servants of God with his desire to distribute tracts every month. It eventually came to be known as the "Carpet Tracting" ministry. After this, God spoke to Angelo to send things to Sierra Leone.

He would collect and send things during the month of November so that it would reach the families and children there before Christmas. He also had a great burden for the persecuted churches around the world and supported the work.

Angelo obeyed God implicitly, no matter what the circumstances were. In 2002, God spoke to Angelo and his wife to start Christian Home Schooling for his daughter. It was not financially possible for his wife to leave her full time job to stay at home to teach their daughter. To make this possible, Angelo decided to sell their house and move to a flat. The day his wife gave her resignation, Angelo was told by the company accountant where he was working for 15 years that they were planning to make all the employees redundant and close down the Company. At this time, God gave Angelo and his family the promise that He is a covenant keeping God and that He will keep them till the end. Angelo held onto this promise in faith. On the last day of his wife's employment, God miraculously enabled Angelo to buy the Company from his employer! A week after this, his daughter started Christian Home Schooling. God did not permit Angelo to sell their house and He provided all their needs.

Angelo lived a simple life. Before taking over the Company, he told his wife the decisions that they would have to make. He said that the Company belonged to God and that if God was to bless them, luxury should in no way become a necessity in their lives. Anything that the Lord blessed Angelo with, he faithfully consecrated to the service of the Lord.

The Lord began to teach Angelo how to depend on Him and look unto Him for all his needs.

In December 2004, Angelo's Company went through a difficult period. The company was left with no money in the bank, but he trusted in God. God never fails! Miraculously, on the day he needed the money God provided exactly the right amount.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2005, God gave Angelo and his family the promise: "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." (Psa. 91:11). On the 27<sup>th</sup> of January, while Angelo was driving with his family, he collapsed on the steering wheel and stopped breathing. The car stopped in the middle of the road. After a few minutes, God gave his life back. Angelo said that he had felt a sharp pain through his body and he could feel his soul leaving the body. The first thing that came to his mind was that he was not ready to meet God. True to the Lord's promise, God gave His angels charge over him and preserved him from an accident. From that day onwards, his prayer was that he must be ready to meet his Lord at any time.

Angelo trusted God in everything, even for his healing. On Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2005, Angelo went to work in the morning as a normal person, but came home dying. He had finished all his work for the day and there was only one more job to complete and that was to fix a circuit board to a machine. He had a screwdriver in his right hand and as he was trying to tighten the screws, he found that he was unable to slot the screwdriver onto the screw. He made several attempts not knowing what was happening until the

screwdriver fell out of his right hand. He tried to pick it up again with his right hand, and again the screwdriver fell down. Only then did Angelo realize something was really wrong and he contacted his wife. By this time, he had lost control of the right side of his body. He thought he was going to die and asked forgiveness from the Lord for all what he had done to displease Him and gave his soul into the hands of the Lord. Angelo said he had so much peace in his heart and he had no fear of death. When his wife and daughter came to his office, they could hardly recognize him. His mouth was pulled to one side and he was unable to talk; but by God's grace he was able to get into his wife's car and on the way home he contacted the Faith Home. The servant of God came and prayed for him. After about twenty minutes of intense prayer, he gave Angelo a glass of water. Amazingly, against medical expectation, Angelo was able to drink it. Angelo was then able to walk up the stairs to his bedroom, though he could not use his hand and his mouth was still pulled to one side. Angelo soon recovered completely. Truly God had performed a miracle!

Angelo was in this faith since he was born, but this was the first time he really experienced the power of divine healing. The same day, Angelo went to the Young Adults Camp. He was sharing his testimony with the believers. That night Angelo had terrible pain in his head, and he lost his speech again. He was in agony. He felt like someone was squeezing his brain. The pain was intense. Then his wife called the servants of God to pray for him. While they were praying, Angelo fell asleep, but the next morning, the situation was the same. He had a terrible pain

in his head, but someone was helping him bear the pain. Angelo could not express in words what this felt like, but he knew it was the Holy Spirit that was helping him to go through this trial. About midday, when Pastor was praying, Angelo received a mighty anointing from the Lord. After this he had sound sleep. The servants of God arranged the transport for Angelo to leave the campus and go home.

As they were about to leave the campsite, Pastor went to the car and told Angelo that when he reaches home, he would be healed. After about an hour and half, they reached home and Angelo walked out of the car as a normal person - he was perfectly healed! He then realized what God's servant had said to him was a prophecy.

After hearing Bible studies on The Foundation Stones of Jerusalem, Angelo realized the importance of character development. He would always say that the one thing that would go with us when we leave this world is our character. Angelo spent much time in prayer. He would faithfully get up every morning at 5am for his personal prayer and then come and wake his wife and daughter at 6am for praising and family prayer. He loved to go to the presence of God and sit at the feet of Jesus.

Angelo was a loving and caring husband and father. He made sure that his children were taught the ways of God and to seek the will of God for even a small matter. He spent time seeking God for their spiritual lives and taught them the importance of having a personal relationship with God. He wanted them to give their best to God and encouraged them to serve God.

The Sunday before Angelo was called home, the message was on divine healing. After church, while seated at the dining table, Angelo spoke to his family about it. He told his wife that though Divine Healing involved healing of the body and soul, one must be prepared to die also. He then told his family to stand with him to the end even if he had to face death. Angelo had no fear of death.

Angelo's whole attitude was as if he was closing down and preparing to go away. He was getting ready to serve God in Heaven. In October 2008, Angelo was eager to send the things to Sierra Leone - a month early! Everything was packed, but there were two boxes left to fill. To the shock of his wife, Angelo emptied most of his own wardrobe and filled the boxes and sent them away.

On the day Angelo did not feel well at work, he called his wife. When she got there with her daughter, Angelo told her, "Take me home. I want to go home." He told his daughter, "Don't worry, don't worry - if I have to go, my Jesus will take me," and assured her that Jesus would take care of her.

During this time a servant of God had a vision in which she found herself in a

dark, grey, misty place. She said she could sense someone walking there. She had never seen a place like this before. She asked the Lord, "What is this place?" to which she promptly received the answer - "This is the valley of the shadow of death." Quite nearby, at a height, she saw a bright light, coming from what seemed to be a window of a home, a place that she knew meant rest. Then she saw someone making his way towards it as if by a magnetic pull. Immediately she was reminded of a verse of the song, "There's a light in the valley of death now for me, since Jesus came into my heart. And the gates to the city beyond I can see, since Jesus came into my heart." That night a few of God's children prayed, claiming victory for his spirit, soul and body. It was clear that God was in complete control of brother Angelo's life.

On the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2008, Angelo went to be with Jesus, where he continues to serve the One he loves. Angelo was peaceful and death seemed sweet to him. It was not Angelo, but the grace of God that did this work in his life. God is able to do this work in us too by His all-sufficient grace. All glory be to Jesus alone.

### Never Enough

*It is a strange thing that some people can never have enough of the world; but no matter how little of the Lord they have, they seem to feel it is enough. Once a wise man asked me, "When will a man of this world feel rich enough?" I replied, "When he has a million dollars." He said, "No." "Two million?" "No." "Ten million?" "No"; "A hundred million?" which I thought would settle the question. He still continued to say, "No." I gave up and confessed I could not tell and asked him to tell me. He gravely said, "When he has a little more than he already has, and that is ... NEVER!"*

# NINERS

In this word search puzzle all the listed words (Books of the Bible) contain nine letters which are hidden in block form in the letter-grid. The first letter is always in the centre of the nine-letter block with the other letters surrounding it (in any direction), but the second letter may appear anywhere in the block. Each word block intersects with one other. Draw a box around each word block as you find it.

L	A	S	E	P	M	E	A	U
A	G	T	V	I	T	C	E	G
T	I	V	E	L	I	L	A	J
G	L	A	S	U	C	S	B	S
C	A	G	N	Z	E	P	H	E
D	T	I	A	I	S	E	Z	N
H	A	C	N	E	E	H	A	I
C	H	A	S	P	H	E	P	E
A	Z	R	Z	E	A	Z	H	R
H	A	I	A	R	I	N	A	A
H	A	S	H	Z	A	C	I	T
P	E	I	C	E	H	I	L	I
S	N	A	D	G	H	S	E	V

- LEVITICUS
- GALATIANS
- EPHESIANS
- ZEPHANIAH
- ZECHARIAH

## AWAKE!

(Can you wake up these SLEEPING ones?)

1. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.
2. He was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains.
3. He was gone down into the sides of the ship and was fast asleep.
4. He lay and slept under a juniper tree.
5. The Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon him.
6. When the sun was going down, a deep sleep; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.
7. Delilah made him sleep upon her knees.
8. He was sleeping within the trench, and his spear stuck in the ground at his bolster.
9. As Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep.
10. He took some stones and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.