



The Kingdom of God in a Clay Jar

By David Luff

In this day and hour in which we live, it can be discouraging to witness the severe decline in the moral fiber of our society. Many Christians feel powerless to impact the social and political chaos in a very significant way. Even though exercising one's right to vote remains very important, it is becoming more difficult to find a political candidate who adequately represents the fundamental Christian's belief and value system. What are we, as the Body of Christ, to do?

I am very thankful for those whom God has seemed to call to resist the moral decline in a very organized way such as Focus on the Family and the Center for Law and Justice and others who challenge these issues through their organizations, and I certainly agree with Christians' support of their efforts. However, I believe that ultimately there is no lasting political solution to the ills of our society. Undoubtedly we are to resist evil as it confronts us, but I believe that God is calling out a

people and preparing them to be part of a long-term solution to these problems which is, of course, the Kingdom of God in the earth. Our real hope for the healing of our society and the whole of God's creation is to be found in the Kingdom of God.

This raises the question, "What do we need to be doing now to prepare for citizenship in this Kingdom?" Eph. 5:15-16 says, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." The NIV translation puts it this way, "Be very careful, then, how you live, not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil." It indicates that the wise Christian will be very careful how he/she lives today because we live in an evil time. This is no time to be careless in any area of our lives.

In Isaiah 9:6-7 we read, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His

name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his Kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." When Jesus came, the Jews were so aware of the coming of a king as described in this Scripture that they overlooked the Scriptures describing the coming of a suffering Savior and thereby missed the king altogether. Today, modern Christendom has emphasized the Saviorhood of Jesus Christ almost to the exclusion of His kingship. Jesus came to be a king, but first He had to redeem a lost and dying people from their sins so they could become citizens of His glorious Kingdom.

John 3:1 says, "In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent for the Kingdom of heaven

is near.”

Matt. 4:17 says, “From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is near.”

Luke 17:20 says, “Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the Kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, ‘The Kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, Here it is, or There it is, because the Kingdom of God is within you.’”

The Scripture is clear that one day the Lord will establish His Kingdom on the earth in an outward way such that all will know of it. However, in this day and hour God desires to establish His Kingdom and kingship in the hearts of men and women, boys and girls. His kingship begins in the hearts of individuals, then grows into the family unit, then into the local assemblies, and finally into the church universal. Jesus prayed, “Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.” Wherever the will of God is done, there the Kingdom of God has come, and the Kingdom must come in these earthen vessels just as it has come in heaven.

Sometimes I feel that Christians are reluctant to emphasize the need for personal effort and the assumption of responsibility for their own spiritual growth and maturity for fear that in doing so they will come under law and frustrate the grace of God. I believe I see just the opposite approach set forth in the Scriptures.

II Cor. 12: 7-10 (NIV), “To keep from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it from me. But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.

That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

You see, when we assume responsibility for our spiritual growth and manner of living, we do so by the grace of God which is in God’s own words, sufficient for us. His strength is made perfect in our weakness. It is His strength we are relying upon, not our own natural strength, which is itself weakness.

II Cor. 4:7 (NIV), “But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.”

Note that this is a “treasure” which is in us. It is the all-surpassing power of God in us. May we quit focusing on the clay jar and start focusing on the treasure in the jar? It is the all-surpassing power, totally sufficient grace of God that will enable us to live our lives by Kingdom principles. However, it is our personal responsibility to exercise that power.

Titus 2:11-14 (NIV), “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say no to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good.”

Paul tells us that this grace by which we received our salvation gives us the power and ability by the Holy Spirit “to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives” here and now. We have the responsibility to exercise the power of the Holy Spirit placed within us to obey the King and allow His Kingdom to be revealed in our lives.

II Peter 1:2-8 (NIV), “Grace and peace be yours in abundance

through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, **make every effort** to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Peter is saying that by the very grace of God that we have so freely received, we already have the resources we need to live godly lives. He uses the phrase, “make every effort.” This implies personal responsibility on our part. I wonder if too often we greatly underestimate the power of the “treasure” God has placed within us. Sure, we are weak, but God says His strength is made perfect in our weakness. Let us be bold to exercise the power in us made available through the manifold grace of God. It is our personal responsibility to repent of and cast off everything that is displeasing to God.

James 4:7-10 (NIV), “Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.”

If you will bear with me I would like to bring to your mind several more Scriptures that speak to us of our personal responsibility as Christians:

I Tim. 4:7-8 (NIV), “Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives’ tales; rather **train yourself to be godly**. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.”

Here the Apostle Paul tells us that we have a responsibility to train ourselves to be godly. He tells us in II Tim 3:16 (NIV), “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, correcting and **training in righteousness**, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” We can help to train ourselves in righteous living by immersing ourselves in the Scriptures. Neglecting the study of the Bible will result in at most a mediocre Christian life.

II Tim. 2:15 (KJV), “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

I Cor. 9:25-27 (NIV), “Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore, I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”

Even the Apostle Paul recognized the need to keep a close eye on his own behavior and to exercise personal discipline and self-control so that after he had completed his ministry here on earth he would be considered worthy of the prize of sonship. If he considered it to be so critical, we too should do the same.

II Tim. 1:6-7 (NIV), “For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, and of **self-discipline** (sound mind –KJV).”

Saints of God, God has given us so much in addition to our salvation. He has given us a Spirit of power, and of love and of self-discipline. Please do not misunderstand me. The self discipline the Bible speaks of is not that which the natural man tries to exercise but that which originates from the inner man which has been redeemed and made alive through faith in Christ and which is intimately mingled with the Holy Spirit of God.

Heb. 5:14 (NIV), “But solid food is for the mature, who by consistent use have **trained themselves** to distinguish good from evil.”

Heb. 12:11 (NIV), “No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.” This passage of Scripture is often used to speak of God’s disciplining of His children, which is true. However, I think it is equally applicable to the discipline we impose on ourselves. Self-discipline is usually not pleasant, but notice from this passage of Scripture the relationship between discipline and the harvest of righteousness.

The brethren have taught from the beginning that salvation is the free gift of God, but the Kingdom of God will cost us everything. I know that no one knows exactly what things will be like in the age of the Kingdom of God, but I remember Brother Wager saying that many of the functions that go on in society will continue in the Kingdom. Commerce will proceed including manufacturing, sales, and service. Transportation, education, recreation, etc. will continue.

However, the difference will be in the government. Rather than having a republic with a democratic form of government, we will have a theocracy in which Jesus Christ is the king. The government will be upon His shoulders which is the Body of Christ who has overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony (their manner of living). I think of the parable of Jesus in Luke 19:11-27 of the ten pounds: the postponed Kingdom. The two faithful servants who had been good stewards over a relatively small amount of resources were made rulers over ten and five cities respectively. I know this is a parable, but Jesus was talking about the coming of the Kingdom and His servants who were faithful were made rulers over cities. I do not believe that it is too far fetched to think that this may literally be what God has in store for those who have paid the price necessary in this life to overcome the carnal nature.

If someone high up in the government of the United States came to me and said that within the next few years the president would ask me to become the Secretary of State or some other cabinet post, I would get very serious in a hurry. I would spend my time much differently than I am doing now. I would read and study everything I could get my hands on about the office I was to fill. I would meet with everyone I could find who knew anything about the office. In short I would willingly lay aside many things I am now doing in an effort to prepare for my future responsibility. This may seem like a ridiculous example, and in most ways it is. However, God will have a people who will rule and reign with Him in His Kingdom. We use that term “rule and reign” often, but just think in practical terms what that might mean. We might be assigned the oversight of five or even ten cities. Whatever our assignment is in the Kingdom, it

will carry with it enormous responsibility for which we will be accountable to God. Then let us heed the admonition in Heb. 12:1 “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”

As I have thought about living in the Kingdom of God as it is outwardly manifested on the earth, I have come to the conclusion that if we are to be at home in the Kingdom when it is outwardly manifested, we must become at home and comfortable in the invisible Kingdom that God wants to establish in our individual hearts and lives as well as our homes and assemblies. In Chapters 5, 6, & 7 of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus sets forth the principles for Kingdom citizenship. It would take too long in this article to discuss each one that our Lord presented. However, I would like to highlight just a few:

Matt. 5:6, “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.”

Matt. 6:33, “But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; all these things will be added unto you.”

The Kingdom of God must be a priority in our lives. We must be willing to deny ourselves anything which has no place in the Kingdom of God. God’s grace is abundantly available to enable us to do so, but we must exercise the personal responsibility to take hold of it and apply it to our situations.

We live in a society that is saturated with sensuality of every type. We are bombarded with sexually charged images from every medium. It is no longer adequate to just passively mind our own business. We must be proactive to protect ourselves and our families from this attempt to dumb down

our standards. Eph. 5:3 (NIV) says, “But among you there must not be **even a hint** of sexual immorality, or any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.” The KJV says, “let it not be once named among you.” Kingdom standards are high. We must stay out of even the slightly gray areas where this is concerned. Matt. 5:29-30 says, “And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee: cut it off, and cast it from thee; for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish and not that thy whole body be cast into hell.” I encountered a good example of this some time ago. A young man who was living alone in an apartment at the time gave his computer to a friend to keep for him until he got a Christian roommate. He elected to do all his personal computer chores during personal time at work where all the computers were in a public place. This eliminated any opportunity to fall into sin with the computer. This was no small sacrifice since the personal computer has become so valuable in doing personal business and even work from home. Taking this action took away both a convenience and sometimes even a necessary work tool. It was like cutting off a useful “right hand.” Jesus chose His metaphor very carefully. Right eyes and right hands are useful. Giving them up is not a small or insignificant sacrifice in the natural, but it is small compared to sacrificing the Kingdom.

Perhaps we could all do some housekeeping as a result of this example. As men, fathers, and grandfathers, we need to make sure our testimony to our wives, children, and grandchildren is a godly one in this area. I think it is good for them to see us bouncing

our eyes away from the magazines at the grocery check-out counter, and turning our eyes from even images that often accompany news items on TV which are inappropriate followed by turning off the TV or changing the channel. If our right eye offends us, let us pluck it out.

As I write this article, I am reminded of what our son ministered to us this past Sunday in church. He cautioned us about allowing our hearts to become hardened. He quoted Eph. 4:19 (NIV), “Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.” He said that it is easy to become desensitized to the evil in the world we live in. Before we know it, we accept it as normal and even acceptable. In this day, it is not enough to be passive about our walk. We must be proactive to embrace the good and actively reject the evil.

The following Scripture from Heb. 3: 12-15 (Phillips) says, “You should therefore be most careful, my brothers, that there should not be in any of you that wickedness of heart which refuses to trust, and deserts the cause of the living God. Help one another to stand firm in the faith every day, while it is still called today, and beware that none of you becomes deaf and blind to God through the delusive glamour of sin. For we continue to share in all that Christ has for us so long as we steadily maintain until the end the trust with which we began. These words are still being said for our ears to hear:

“Today if you will hear his voice,

Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation” (Heb. 3:7-8, KJV).

I do not know what the “right hand” and “right eye” represents in your life, but let us take stock and do whatever “plucking” or “cutting” away of anything which over time causes us to lose our sensitivity to

sin and results in a hardened heart. The stakes are so high. The redemption of the creation hangs in the balance. Let us not be like the five foolish virgins who fell asleep and let their oil run out. I often think of the Scripture found in Eph. 3:10-11 (NIV) which says, "His (God's) intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to His eternal purpose which is accomplished in Christ Jesus

our Lord." God intends for us, the Church, the Body of Christ, to demonstrate through our manner of living the manifested wisdom of God to the "power brokers" in the heavenly realms. Then, as it says in Gal. 6:9 (NIV), "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

At the beginning of this article, the question was asked, "What is a Christian to do in the face of such discouraging times for our culture?"

I am convinced that the greatest contribution we can make is toward the longer-term, permanent solution which is to fulfill God's call to fill our place in the Body of Christ and through unconditional obedience to His Word let Him establish His Kingdom in our hearts and homes and assemblies. Let our lives join together to testify to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms that the manifold wisdom of God is the real solution to the problems of this world.

Corinthians

By A. V. York

Glory to God!

The sixth chapter of second Corinthians. Perhaps we should start from the last two verses of chapter five.

2 Cor. 5:20, "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God." The ministry of me being reconciled is not just a lonely thing but it is participation in the Body of Christ. You are helping me to be reconciled to God. Amen? You are, by the Spirit, when you lift up your voice in praise to God, renewing the inward man by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Cor. 5:21, "For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us,..." I was reading the last two chapters of the Gospel of John this morning and it's an epic narration of the events that God foreordained from before the foundation of the world. No other book has been written like the Bible. There's no other truth like the truth Himself that bore the image of the Living God, to make us more than just mortals. He made us in the eternal image of God Himself. That is wonderful. It

is beyond my understanding. We do not know how much God has for us in the eternal, but we know that, "eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared..." (1 Cor. 2:9). Have you prepared something for dinner today at home? That's just something that you do, especially you ladies because your good husbands, in most cases, provides something for you to prepare. God in like manner from before the foundation of the world says, "...that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." (2 Cor. 5:21). What preparation! Glory to God! Somebody shout a little bit. AMEN! Glory to God!

2 Cor. 6:1, "We then, *as* workers together *with Him* also plead with *you* not to receive the grace of God in vain." Not just go through the motions. Not just do a pretending job like the Pharisees and the Scribes did in the day when Jesus came to His own. When He came to His own, the Gospel declares that they didn't receive Him. Why? Because they were all clouded in their hearts and minds with the performance of what the ritual was

that man had set up about the law. It wasn't the transformation of the heart to fulfill the law.

2 Cor. 6:2, "For He says: '*In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you.*'" That acceptable time is when? Behold now is the accepted time! Behold now! Our God is the God of now. Hallelujah! This is the day that we have had the privilege of coming together and worshipping Him. Glory to God! Now is the acceptable time; now is the time that He helps us to minister by the Spirit.

And in this day of salvation, he says, "We give no offence in anything that our ministry may not be blamed" (2 Cor. 6:3). In other words, He so dwells with us that He wants us to be an example. And if we're not, which often occurs, then we can come to the cross and we can make it right or He can make it right. Glory to God!

2 Cor. 6:4-6, "... in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God..." How much humility is in that? Everything is a humble operation here. Everything. He says, "...in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God..."

We're not representing ourselves but we're representing Him. Amen? "... in much patience..." In much patience... in much patience... and in much patience and a little more patience. Amen? We could get sidetracked here and give a lot of examples on this very thing but you know what everyday life is like. We often use the phrase, "it takes the patience of Job." But many times it may take a little more and it's not our own, but rather something that Jesus imparts by the Holy Spirit. "...in much patience, in tribulations..." Now the list is so vast that there isn't anything that isn't covered in our life. That's what the Holy Spirit has brought into my experience. If you want to talk about needs and loses and everything like that, I could go on for hours talking about those things. But He's been there to help and to change the situation. "... in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes..." Now, I haven't felt the physical ones since I was a boy, when I needed it in the place of application. I've told you that story before. "...in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments..." Now he's talking about physical things here. "... in tumults, in labours, in sleeplessness, in fastings..." So we are to be these examples: "...by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit..." That is what is always in the now - the Holy Spirit. Glory to God!

Lately, I've been a little concerned that some let others do it. You know the willing person or the ministry that's predominant, that's the one that seems to be doing it. I don't know how to say this by the Holy Spirit and by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God. But I'd love to see more of the young people sing in the Spirit. They sing wonderfully in the harmony of the hymns but very rarely do I hear them sing in the Spirit. Young people, please pray

about it. Please ask God to help you to do that, because what it does for me, when I hear a young person sing in the Spirit, is it just lifts me beyond where I am into the Heavenly realms. The same with the instruments. When they are played in the Spirit, they are a tremendous edification. Amen? I am not wanting to put anybody on the spot but I am wanting to make you feel more apart of what God is doing. Hallelujah. I don't like to see anybody left out. I love to see the changes that the Holy Spirit desires because He says it's by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the Word of truth. There's nothing more wonderful than the fact that in this Move, as our brother was referring to this morning about the gifts of the Spirit, that the Holy Spirit revealed how everybody should participate in the meetings, to edification, exhortation, encouragement, and comfort.

There was a brother at my house the other day who said he didn't understand Canon Law. He's a layman in one of the churches in town. He goes out to the little places where they can't have a minister because of the finances and conducts a service. We were commiserating while he was working. He was putting in a new water heater for me. The thing I enjoyed was trying to understand where he was at in the Spirit. He even admitted that nothing was effectual except by the Spirit. If that is being recognized in the denominations, we to whom God has been so gracious to spearhead so to speak, the necessity of being lead by the Spirit, should be setting the examples. Amen?

2 Cor. 6:7-9, "...by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report; as deceivers and yet true, as unknown and yet well known, as dying and behold we live, as

chastened and yet not killed..." Oh my what a list! So if your experience, long or short, has been in your own estimation unworthy, put that aside and believe that your experience fits into what God has called you for. Because you will be included; nobody will be excluded from all of these experiences in order to minister by the Spirit. Amen?

"...as unknown and yet well known..." In the political field, the better a person is known, the better chance he has of getting elected or to come to power. But it's only a temporal thing. We may be in our little corner just another unknown, but we're known to God. He's the great supervisor. He's the great superintendent of the ages. He's sent the Holy Spirit, and an innumerable cloud of witnesses, the holy angels to facilitate the Kingdom that He's building. My oh my, I at times just want to cry about how great He is and how wonderful this marvellous moving of the Spirit is, this Kingdom of His, of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. Can you think of anything that is left out of all these experiences in this passage? It's all here.

"...as unknown and yet well known, as dying and behold we live..." No natural mind can explain these things, but the Holy Spirit can make them vivid and real so that we come to a knowledge that far surpasses this present age, in any university, any college, or any place on the face of the earth. We are hearing from heaven by the Holy Spirit, by the Word of Truth, and by the knowledge of the living God.

2 Cor. 6:9-10, "... as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich..." Here is something that doesn't take dollars and cents to do the banking.

Think of the little kid in school that needs a word of encouragement. Your word of kindness will be a

blessing to that person when you encourage him. You may say something you may not think will help, but if the Spirit of God helps you to say it, it will make a difference. So, in all these little things in life, we find the grace of God enriching the lives of others even though we may be poor ourselves. To mind comes the words of Jesus. He saw the people putting in their big contributions in the moneybox in the temple and the one widow, he said, put in more than all the rest of them. The reason that it was more than all the rest of them was that she put in everything that she had. Everything she had, a poor widow.

“...poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.” How many know what it’s like to be hard up? And yet he says, “...possessing all things.” Possessing all things. I can’t comprehend all this but the glory of the eternal makes it possible. The Holy Spirit makes it possible when you start counting your blessings and all the people that God has blessed us with over the years but have now been promoted to glory. I can remember people sitting here in these seats and I can tell you some of the things that they said. They are members one of another and they share and

we share of this possession of the eternal things. Glory to God!

Usually farmers get hard up. I remember 1950-51. My father’s crop was hailed out two years in a row. He had become so poor by the spring of ‘52 that he had to borrow some oats from a neighbour to get some planting on his farm. Before we got at the harvest, one day the same storm clouds started to form. The storm clouds that had come the two years before and had wiped out the whole crop. My father fell on his knees in the front room and I fell on my knees beside him. And he said, “Oh Lord, though You slay me yet I’ll trust you.” He was right at the bottom when it came to the finances. The Dear Lord heard his prayer and the clouds lifted. They didn’t bring anything but it was just as threatening as the two years before.

We all share in one manner or another in many experiences but they all have a particular function in bringing the nurture of the new man within the soul. My father got promoted to glory the last day of ‘52. I’m glad for his sake that he did.

2 Cor. 6:11-12, “O Corinthians! We have spoken openly to you, our heart is wide open. You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your *own* affections.”

We want the affections of heaven. Amen? Many of these things and experiences we go through are to transform the new man and make the dying of the old man complete so that we have these things that God has planned for us. Not our own affections but the heavenly affections.

2 Cor. 6:13-14, “Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open. Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?” There’s a sermon there and this is a heartbreaking experience. This brother that was in my house the other day, lost his wife through divorce. He said, “It’s not scriptural. It’s not right.” He said, “I know it all by experience. And the trial of raising one son in a divided house is a terrible situation.”

2 Cor. 6:15-17, “And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols?” Now we see on the TV, this idol and that idol and the people are going mad after them. But you are the temple of God. I’ve had the Holy Spirit say to me, “What idol do you have that you don’t need so I can occupy more room in your life?”

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“For you are...” This is the now. “...you are the temple of the living God.” Makes it easy for you to sing in the Spirit, makes it easy for you to prophesy. You say, “I don’t know.” Your doubt will always keep you in doubt until you act upon the truth and let the Spirit of God bring forth the edification that the living God wants to bring forth.

“As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be

My people.’ Therefore ‘Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you...” We’ve all had earthly fathers of various calibers. God has blessed us by their care. But he says, “...you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty.” (2 Cor. 6:18)

Oh Hallelujah! What a heritage. Shall we stand and sing It Is Glory Just To Walk With Him.

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CALLED HOME
Harvey W. Zingle
Dec. 16, 2007
Edmonton, Alberta

CARIBBEAN CAMP - ST. VINCENT, WI
Grace and Truth Campsite - Layout, St. Vincent
Contact: Cephas Forde, Camden Park, St. Vincent
E-mail: merfor1@yahoo.com. Phone 784-457-7272

DATES OF IMPORTANCE

Feast North Battleford	March 20 - 23, 2008
Illinois Gathering (King's House)	May 2 - 4, 2008
Camp North Battleford	July 6 - 13, 2008
North Carolina Summer Camp	Still unavailable but please keep the last 2 weeks in July open
Caribbean Camp, St. Vincent	Aug. 2 - 10, 2008
Pinelaw Summer Family Camp	Aug. 4 - 10, 2008
Hidden Acres	Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 2008
Park Valley	Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 2008
Winkler	Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 2008
Minden Meetings	N/A
Pinelaw Fall Family Camp	N/A

**ILLINOIS GATHERING
(King's House)
Friday, May 2 - Sunday, May 4, 2008**

The King's House retreat center is located on the East side of the Illinois River across from the town of Henry, IL.
From I 80 go south on I 80 which runs into S 29. Follow S 29 to E 18 in Henry, from E 18 turn north on RT26. From I 74 take 116 East to Rt. 26 in East Peoria.
Go north on Rt. 26 to Henry IL.
We will begin on Friday evening and end on Sunday after lunch.
Price includes room with private bath, linens, meals and meeting rooms.
We will collect from individuals at the retreat.
Charges for Room & Board:
Age 0 - 3 No Charge; Age 4 - 12 - \$25; Age 13 - Adult - \$50.
Send Reservations, by April 13, to:
Randall G. Snoke, 128 Tanglewood Lane, East Peoria, IL 61611.
Phone (309) 694-7048, e-mail - rgsnoke@juno.com

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:
Sharon Children's Homes and Schools
Box 878, North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada, S9A 2Z3

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