



# The Miracle of Salvation

*By Andy Snoke*

A miracle! It is an absolute miracle! To see that a person’s sins can be erased, forgiven, forgotten in a moment of time. To understand that the Son of God came to pay our penalty for sin on the cross, and then made salvation available to all that believe, is a miracle.

Her name is not known. She was lost, and living a life of blatant sin. She was caught in the very act of adultery. According to the law she was to be stoned to death.

Leviticus 20:10 “If a man commits adultery with another man’s wife -- with the wife of his neighbor--both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death.”

The enemies of Christ brought her to him and cast her at his feet. She was being used as a ploy to get Jesus to contradict the word of God. She most likely had been “set up” and tricked into sin. Though the penalty of the law required that both the adulterer and adulteress were to be stoned, there is no mention of the man, who most likely was part of this plan of trickery.

Repeatedly, the enemies of the Lord tried to get him to condemn this woman who had fallen into sin, and lay on the ground in the midst of them all.

“What do you say?” They repeated to the Lord. But Jesus, in a moment of time, instead of casting judgment, offered complete forgiveness. Jesus superseded the dispensation of Law with the dispensation of Grace. “Neither do I condemn you,” Jesus said. What this nameless woman did not know was that Jesus had the full authority to forgive sins by reason of the price He was about to pay on the cross. He was about to take this woman’s sins, and pay the penalty for her sins, Himself, in her place

(and in yours and mine).

“Jesus went unto the mount of Olives. And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them. And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, neither do I condemn

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thee: go, and sin no more” (John 8: 1-11, KJV).

Jesus came to forgive sin; all sin, to give us more than a second chance. He offers this to all that will open their hearts to receive Him as their Savior.

Nicodemus was a very religious man in Jesus day. He was a member of the ruling council called the Sanhedrin, who would eventually play a major role in condemning Jesus to the cross. Nicodemus knew that Jesus could only have come from God because of the miracles that Jesus did.

Jesus immediately revealed to Nicodemus the need for a second birth, to be “born again” in the spirit. To be “born again” is no less a miracle than to be born the first time as a baby. However, to be born once as a baby, you have no choice in the matter. To be “born again” requires a decision to accept Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, into your heart.

Nicodemus may have not known God at all. Though he was a religious man, part of the Sanhedrin, he did not know the way to God until Jesus the Son of God made the way known to him, and to all that have read his precious conversation with the Lord.

“There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal

life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3: 1-16, KJV).

That last verse, John 3:16 has become the most translated and repeated piece of literature in all of history. It is translated in enough languages to reach 90% of the world’s population. In this day of electronic media, it is interesting to note that during a 60-day period, starting Jan 2011, Wikipedia had over 375,000 “searches” on this one verse alone. Also as a side note of interest, on January 9, 2011, a young Christian football quarterback named Tim Tebow, (then playing for the Denver Bronco’s), walked into the stadium with the painted image 3:16 on his cheekbone. During that particular game, it is interesting to note, he threw for 316 yards. Immediately thereafter Wikipedia had total “search” hits of 183,009 on John 3:16 in only two days, January 9 through 11.

John 3: 16 has been called the “greatest love story ever told.” It is the story of our heavenly Father, offering His Son Jesus on the cross as payment for our sins. To take full benefit of this forgiveness one only needs to believe in him.

Whether as a reader of this article, you are a “saint or a sinner,” it does not matter. The way home to heaven, is only through the cross. Whether you are a blatant sinner, as the woman caught in adultery, or a religious person such as Nicodemus, the formula is still the same.

It comes through believing and accepting the free gift of God through Jesus Christ. It is an act of grace and mercy on God’s behalf towards us.

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9, KJV).

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Romans 10: 9-10).

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

If you have not accepted Jesus into your heart, as a reader, do it now. Now is the time. Don’t wait another moment. The door is open to you.

“Behold, I (Jesus) stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him (to have fellowship together) , and he with me” (Revelation 3: 20, KJV).

# The Love of the Lord Must Flood Our Hearts

*By Allan Livingstone*

(Taken from a sound file of a Sunday service at North Battleford Young Peoples 2011) Let's pray. Our dear Heavenly Father, we stand before You today. We're in Your presence, all of us, Oh Lord. We desire to hear from You. We pray that this would not be a waste of time, dear Lord. We ask that Thou wilt bring this lovely Young People's camp to a glowing conclusion, oh Lord, and that's only possible if You will anoint and fill and minister by Your spirit. Oh Lord, it is entirely dependent on You. We look to You, oh Lord, and we know You to be faithful. We pray for Your leading and Your blessing, Heavenly Father. We thank You for this time before You and we commit everything to You in Jesus name, Amen. Praise the Lord! Precious Lord.

These men that we work within the church, you know it doesn't take much to trigger them. I mentioned this morning that I had read some scripture and might have a song on my heart. Did you ever take hold of a door that was open just a crack and somebody took hold of the handle from the other side and kind of "yanked?" And then there were two guys pushing from behind. So, here am I. But God is able and He's been telling me lately not to let fear get a hold of me.

Let's turn to I Corinthians 3:1. The theme of this camp has been not to let the world squeeze you into its mold,- Rom.12:2 "Be not conformed to this world but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." I think if I'm led by the Spirit that the Lord will lead right into that. It says, "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ," and I fear that in my life I don't have to look too far before I can find examples of carnality within my thinking. Paul is talking of carnality here in a way we don't always speak of. Oftentimes we speak of carnality as the obvious sins of the flesh. Paul goes on and he says, "I have fed you with milk and not with meat for hitherto you were not able to bear it neither yet now are you able." Promise yourself something right now! Promise that you will pray to the Lord that He will cause you to grow up enough that He would be able to feed you with meat and not always with milk. The reason you come here, young people, is to be able to take a look at what maturity in Christ is all about and what's expected of you when you begin to walk with

Him as young men and young women. Age does not have to determine maturity. So reach out spiritually and begin to grasp the things that have to do with taking a responsibility for a mature walk.

In verse 3 He says, "For ye are yet carnal," and he begins to describe how he knows that. "For whereas there is among you envying and strife and divisions, are ye not carnal and walk as men." Now I'm going to tell you a homely little truth about the things that I've heard about when people come to these camps. Sometimes they feel kind of "cut out." There are cliques. Cliques usually happen because of shyness overall and so you gather together into your little knot and you say, "Well I don't have to be shy with this group. I've become comfortable with these people and now I don't really want to expend the effort to begin to become comfortable with those people." Maybe through certain events, you might have seen something in a brother or a sister that might have put you off and so you have this fear - this shyness and that's not right.

I'll tell you what shyness is like when you're painfully shy, the kind of painful shyness I know many of you know about but few admit. It's like being dropped out of a boat and the boat leaves and you're in the waves all by yourself. You are swimming to try to get a breath of air and the waves are not friendly. You feel incredibly alone and sometimes that's the way it is in a crowd. So, have a little pity one for another. Have a little compassion. As you pity yourself, pity somebody else like that.

The Love of the Lord should fill the body to such an extent that when you see those who have gone through trouble, your pity goes out to them like a Father's pity goes out for his children. I've seen a young man at this camp who had experienced disappointments and my heart went out to him like he was my own son. The Love of the Lord must flood the body. It must flood our hearts so that we aren't thinking of ourselves but of one another. Though you may even feel the body has no pity for its members yet you determine in your heart that YOU will and that you'll love them.

There's a great deal of talk about unity. How on earth can you begin to talk about unity if you don't love your brothers and sisters. It's time to stop being hypocrites. Stop with all the spiritual cliches and be

concerned for one another. If I've ever done anything to anyone here that I should be sorry for - it may be that I didn't notice it or it may be that I did and I'm just human enough to try to ignore it, but I apologize. If anybody feels they need a special apology from me, then come to me and I'll say, "I'm sorry. I was wrong."

We don't find these things easy to talk about, like our brother was saying. He doesn't find it easy to say he is sorry, but we must all learn to say that. We must all learn to confess our weaknesses, our flesh, our humanity to one another and we should get people to pray for us. We should pray for one another.

We can get in the habit of minimizing people so that we feel a little more elevated. I appreciated a couple of the young men who talked about going into a different assembly and immediately feeling better than those there. Oftentimes that's a natural reaction but I haven't heard it confessed too often. I appreciated that they felt the need to come clean about that.

"For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?" (1Cor.3:3-5). You know sometimes we can feel special toward some members of the body and not toward others. There may be different reasons for that, like maybe you've had some history together or something like that. When I first came into the body, I can remember chumming with different ones. After a while you felt kind of like, "Well, this could get to be 'cliquey'." So you draw back a little bit and people look at you like you've hurt them or something like that and you didn't mean anything. That's a matter of maturity. If we will grow up a little bit we'll recognize that we should be able to have the freedom and self-respect to not be in somebody's "hip pocket."

I'm saying that you can see in the world how somebody, for the chance of moving up in their position or in their finances, will court some other person to their advantage. They'll be able to say, "Oh, he and I are "tight." We've done business together. He wouldn't forget what I did for him. He wouldn't forget that special deal." But "out there" there is a lively slavery trade and I'll tell you how to make a slave. You make a slave by giving him a real good gift and then you give him another real good gift and you begin to work that fellow to your profit. Set him up, in some way, that he's going to profit you because you profited him. You gave him something. This is all theory but I think this is the way it works. The more that he owes you, the more you can work him and the more that you can own him. So, that's common practice in business and it's common practice in government. It's the principle by which this world works. It's important to understand that. Our brother talked about Satan owning and ruling the world, and the Bible says that he is the prince of this world.

I've read a few books about the Second World War. It was fascinating to read about Hitler. He was a very "nervy," smooth strategist when he started out. He took awful chances, any one of which could have lost him the war right from the very beginning. He carried on successfully for a time, but toward the end of his reign of terror, his mind was going and he began to run things badly. It became easy to tell he was insane. And you know, that's how Satan runs the world. He is absolutely stark raving insane, and he runs the world badly. We might as well reckon the things the Lord is giving are easily able to defeat the evil one. Just remember Satan is a fallen angel and it is two to one. It was only one third of the angels that fell from Heaven, and that's all the force that he's got.

You know what Satan's main weapon and strategy is? It's fear. He will make you afraid of everything and he will herd you around using fears. So, you will need to grow up and be mature. You know, a child will look out at the night and he'll say, "I can't go out there, there are monsters out there". And his father will come along with a lot of years on him and say, "Oh, there are no monsters." And he takes him by the hand and he goes out with him. You can be looking at the darkness and saying, "there are monsters out there." Your Heavenly Father tells you, "fear not." You know, oftentimes such things are in the offing that you wonder what's going to happen. You think, "I am in trouble. I'm in such trouble. I think something terrible could happen." But, I can tell you right now you're in the hand of the Lord and He will

**IMPORTANT DATES**

North Battleford Camp..... July 1st - 8th, 2012  
 North Carolina Camp..... July 22nd - 28th, 2012  
 Pinelow (Washington) Camp..... August 6th - 12th, 2012  
 Caribbean Camp (Trinidad)..... August 6th - 12th, 2012  
 Park Valley Labour Day..... Aug. 31st - Sept. 3rd, 2012  
 Winkler Family Camp ..... Aug. 31st - Sept. 3rd, 2012  
 Hidden Acres Family Camp..... Aug. 31st - Sept. 3rd 2012



keep you. He's on top of that. He knows your needs. He knows the condition of your heart and His spirit says to you, "take courage."

Reading this passage, I thought of a certain brother I admire. I noticed early in my walk that this brother reserved the right to say "no." He would love you with all of his heart. He'd do all he could for you, but there were certain things he would never do for you, because it would interfere with his walk. His walk for the Lord was always just so strong. He wouldn't step onto the one side or the other. He was totally dependable and he had this tremendous strength of the Lord with him. You should desire that for yourself. You should reserve the right to say, "No, brother, that is something I won't do." What if your father came to you and wanted you to do something that was against Christian principles or what if a son came to you and wanted you to do something that was against Christian principles? What if you wanted to live in a way that was different from your parents? You may have looked at your parent's lives and you saw something that caused you to think, "Well, that could be improved a little bit." You might say to yourself, "I could take a strategy and not go that way. I could run my home more according to what the brethren have taught." You know, you shouldn't be worried about people being offended by these things, because you are to walk that walk with Christ's love in your heart. They should be able to understand that there are certain things you won't do. I remember being coerced by a man, and we'd had a long association before I became a Christian. I could feel whenever we got together that he wanted to get into some kind of argument and so one day he was presenting his case. It must have been a word from the Lord because I said to him, "Well, in order for me to agree with you I would have to deny all that I believe as a Christian." You know, he never came back at me again. He took that and, as far as I know, he didn't get offended. I was surprised at how easily that happened.

I appreciated our young sister's testimony last night of how she was glad her friends saw her as different. Glad that people knew there were certain things they couldn't say around her because she wouldn't enjoy it. How at first it kind of annoyed her and then she thought that it was a good thing. So she was standing for something. Maybe one of the first times in her life where she really had to stand for something and the Lord was with her as she stood as a Christian before them. Can you have that kind of strength that she showed? I want to challenge you! Stand up for Jesus! Have a little self-respect. Let everybody around know, if they want to know, that

there are things you don't do. You don't have to force your faith down their throats, but at the same time you can stop them from forcing theirs down yours, and it is a faith. These things are not intellectual battles. They are battles of faith. They may have a faith in their education and in ways that they have learned to argue, but still it's a faith and you have the faith that overcomes all the world.

"Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom you believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase" (I Cor 3:5-6). There's been talk about the young men being converted in the jail. It would be hard to imagine the lengthy steps, the turns of events, that would have brought those boys to that decision. Somebody was in at the finish and heard them say, "I confess my sins, Lord Jesus, and I am sorry for them and I would like to have you as my Saviour" and, you know, it would be a shame to take credit for that, wouldn't it? We are workers together. What is so glorious about that situation is the engineering of God Almighty to take it to that point, and if you can be in on ANY part of that process you should feel just as blessed as the one that heard that confession of Christ. Let us begin to work together. Let us begin to love one another more and more, that we can begin to receive that glory that He gives and spreads out over all the earth. He is interested in us partaking of it. The Bible says the whole Earth is full of His glory. Do you have your heart open to receive His glory wherever you go on this Earth?

Many times in our lives, from the time we are little, we are taught to ignore certain things. A little toddler will go around and he will inspect everything. He will look at everything and it will all be good for him because he is just learning about this world. As he goes along he recognizes how other people act, and he stops that close inspection. He might just use his eyes and look around a lot. He may use his ears, and he'll hear so much and he'll learn so much from whatever he takes in. Then he learns more and more to cut out a tremendous amount of stimulus. You don't recognize, much of the time, what you ignore. Cutting out some of the information comes with maturity. One might say this is "cutting to the chase." But having said that, we still need to remember how to be a child. "Except you be converted, and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt.18:3). You won't be able to behold the Kingdom if you don't become converted and become like a little child. If we despise those small beginnings, then we set ourselves up as something su-

perior. I always appreciate a person who will, when the occasion arises, get down into a child's world. We used to play marbles and if an adult would get down and play marbles with us, that was pretty special. You should be a well rounded people who don't just know about being mature but who also know something about a child's point of view. We must be able to know as Christ knows - to know something about a person's life from the beginning to the end, and beyond. It is our responsibility to be overseers, eventually of the whole Earth, and we must become oh, so wise and oh, so acquainted with what is under our hands.

I've been reading a book by Churchill, "Their Finest Hour" and it's just extraordinary the grasp that the man had of every little system that was going on in England. Not only there but also what the intelligence was that was coming from Germany, from France, and from Africa. He had a finger in every pie, and he understood so much of what was necessary and what everything would accomplish. He was tireless. He would sleep for four hours a night and work the rest of the time. He would have his correspondence read to him in bed and many of his telegrams he drafted when he woke up. To Roosevelt and to Stalin and to Marshal Petain in France, to General DeGaulle, and all these world heads he was in touch with personally by telegram. Even Marshal Petain, who betrayed the French nation and made an armistice with Germany, even to him Churchill always gave an opportunity to turn around and come back. There was barely ever a word of condemnation for the things that Petain did, you see. Churchill seemed to be almost the Grandfather of the world. If you read these telegrams, if you have the patience to go through them, it's extraordinary some of the counsel he would give. It's like listening to the brethren. The Lord had him for that hour and injected into him God's wisdom. So, don't feel that it's all contained in us, but recognize that we must become like a sponge ready to absorb the wisdom of God from any direction.

Test the spirits. We don't want to allow just everything into our heads as though it would help the body. But ask the Lord for some discernment. And with certain things it doesn't matter if it's under some Christian label or something like that. Certain things turn aside. You don't have to accept all that the world's churches put out. These are things that you must make a choice in, because the Lord has given you a bounty. I'll put it that way; a bounty of the Holy Spirit. He's given you a fullness; a richness of His Holy Spirit. You've been shown things like we've heard in prophecy last night, that through the ages kings and priests desired to look into. The

patriarchs, I believe was how it was put. You hear these things and you take them in, and you put them in your notebook. Then you go on and you get up in the morning and go to work just like ordinary people, as though the ends of the ages didn't rest on you.

"So then neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon." (I Cor.3:7-10). Boy, you've got to have nerve to say something like that. Paul said, "I have laid the foundation." You know, he didn't think any less of his gifts than what they were. We should be careful about thinking ourselves as too big, and we should be careful about thinking ourselves as too little. Recognize that if you are speaking by the Spirit of the Lord, the things that you say could be quoted on down through the ages. They can affect people on the other side of the world.

"But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon." I dread to be in a position where I'm saying things out of my own head, and not from the foundation of what the brethren have taught me. The brethren go through exhausting routines to instill in the shepherds the things that they must take back to the flocks and instill in them. I asked one of the brethren how he was feeling after the series of elders and deacons meetings that he'd been at all over the country. He said, "It's grueling." You think they turn up just because they want to be here with you? They have a responsibility. It weighs on them mightily, and I know that they are always finding themselves with the need to call on the Lord continuously for strength to be able to bear that. I don't envy them a little bit. But, they do it because of the love of Christ that constrains them. Thank you brethren for all you do.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that that is laid which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds upon this foundation, gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he has built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." (vs.11-15). So, the Spirit of the Lord is saying, "hang on," even though you may have

built yourself a pile of wood, hay and stubble which will be taken away by that fire, yet hang on, and receive from the Lord that portion of His love that He gives for you. You know, some things may come along in our walk, and we may wonder greatly about them and we want to tell others, but the Lord will not reward running ahead. Things may happen to us that we find strange and wonderful, but they should be some good to somebody. What purpose do they have? Are they going to be ways that are going to cause you grow up into Christ and receive more of His maturity? Or are they, so to speak, trips to the fair? One saying that the brethren have given is that if you don't understand something, put it on the shelf, and wait. Now, I've put a lot of things on the shelf. Sometimes, when I go back to the shelf, they're not there. Sometimes they just disappear and you wonder, "What was it I put up here?" That's the Spirit of the Lord dealing with these things for you. There's lots you don't have to figure out, lots you don't have to know. He knows all. All you really have to know is what His direction is for you and what you should be thinking, because He's going to tell you what to think. So is the enemy, but you've got to discern the difference. You've got to receive the Lord's Spirit enough to know that, "Oh no, that's not His voice! He wouldn't tell me that." And you've got to know enough to know something of that character, the Almighty God's incorruptible character. That word of the Lord comes as a still, small voice, and that's the way you should be listening, as though you were listening to a still, small voice.

While we're on that subject of hearing, I'll hear somebody sing in the spirit sometimes and I'll think, "Boy that was beautiful singing... wish I knew what they said." You know, I can't live without consonants. If all I hear are vowel sounds what good is it? I've got to hear some sounds to give it all distinction. Those are the consonants. When you have a good balance of the vowels and the consonants then you have understanding. When we sing in the spirit and when we speak let's try to speak clearly, because there are those in the body who need to hear it. I'm the last one in the body that should be telling you that, but it's good advice anyway.

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." (vs.16-17). If we've ever used somebody, or hurt them in any way, or if we've tempted them to do anything that was not good for their body, it wouldn't be bad to take a few moments to think about that and ask the Lord for forgiveness. You are tampering with the

temple of the Holy Ghost and I think that's worthwhile taking seriously. Praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

"Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, the Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain. Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's" (vs.18-23). So these words call on us to forsake the things that we have learned to reason in, and deduce from, by using the efforts of our own earthly minds. Things that we've learned in our trades or in our educations, or our universities, are spiritually unprofitable, so we are to fall down in awe-struck worship to receive His wisdom and His Spirit.

I'll tell you what the Body of Christ is like, and this is Kingdom "stuff." A dear sister showed up at the Prince Albert meetings, and since I'm a goldsmith, she brought along her earrings for me to repair, never knowing I'd be there. She took them along in case Jan and I went. We'd never gone to Prince Albert meetings before. The previous week we were scheduled to go to the Edmonton meetings, but Jan had pneumonia and we had to bow out. This dear sister never had any idea we were going to those meetings, but she brought these earrings along through faith or a Word of Knowledge, I don't know which, so we connected up and I took her earrings and I'm going to fix them for her. That's the body of Christ in action. That's the way it's going to be in the kingdom where we have a knowledge beyond our own knowledge. That's an example of how the Body of Christ operates. Praise the Lord!

We've still got a bit of time. I'm trying to remember what it was I was going to talk about (laughter). I might not be able to encapsulate it all. I will say this that a thought occurred to me. We always assume that if we have lots of fellowship, lots of the input, and people are challenging us on what we believe that we'll become stronger Christians, and more able to function spiritually, etc. But I think of Elijah being directed to head for the brook, cherith, and wait there on the Lord while the ravens brought him his bread and his meat morning and night. He sits there and sits there without any input - no emails, no phone calls, no letters from his mom. He sits there and he waits, and every day he gets his food. It must have been awfully dull, but he sits there and sits there. The brook dries up. The Lord finally speaks to him.

He says, "I have sent you to a widow in Zarephath. I have commanded a widow to sustain thee." He sees her, and this pitiful woman is going about collecting sticks. She has a little bit of oil and a little bit of flour in the house, she's going to make a couple of cakes for her and her son, and they're going to eat these cakes and die. But, no - she's been commanded to support the prophet. He arrives and he says, "Make me a little cake!"

She says, "I've got nothin' here. We're just gonna cook up what we have and then we're just gonna sit down and wait for death to overtake us." He says, "Just make me a little cake first." I thought, "What a 'piggy' guy!" Y'know? My goodness! Take the food right out of their mouths!

So! "So, what's the difference!" she thinks. "What's the difference whether I die this week or next week," and she makes it for him. You know, that cruse of oil never stopped pouring oil and that little meal bin never stopped producing meal. He was all by himself for that three and a half years. You wouldn't think he'd be much good spiritually.

Then there's Moses. Forty years old, set to conquer the world, even willing to commit murder to lift his people out of the gutter - struck with fear when he knew they had found out about the murder. He thought he'd covered it up. Off he goes into the desert. He's in that desert for another forty years. He's eighty years old and God calls him to go down into Egypt! You think it's grueling looking after all those elders and deacons meetings, eh, brother? Off he goes. The Spirit of the Lord apprehends him. We've been apprehended, haven't we? Yes, he's apprehended by the Spirit of the Lord, shown miracles, and the path is laid out before him. "I want you to go tell Pharaoh, 'Let My People Go!'"

You wouldn't think he'd be much good after forty years all by himself looking after sheep. But God sees these things differently. If God took you and

walled you off by yourself some place, you must have the Faith of God to know Him daily. You take that Faith, and you live responsibly before Him, and you live like a Christian wherever you are, because you can't be anything else. You are a Christian! You could backslide - you're still a Christian but you're a backslidden Christian, and that is terrible, because you don't get any benefits that way. You must live as a Christian wherever you are, wherever you go. However, the Lord wants to deal with you, to put you into a box, so you might think, and lock you up, and throw away the key. In spite of this, you live for Him! Job 13:15, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him."

## West Indies Camp 2012

St. Helena, Trinidad

August 6 - 12, 2012

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## PINELOW SUMMER CAMP — AUG. 6 - 12, 2012

Please send your reservations as soon as possible by email to:  
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Please state date and time of arrival and numbers of children including ages. I will confirm your reservation so you will know that you have been registered. The check-in time begins Monday, August 6th at 4:00 p.m. and the camp concludes with breakfast on Sunday morning, August 12th. Please advise me if you plan to be at the camp for the first evening (6:00 p.m.) meal.

**Rates are:**

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Children - (ages 3-11) \$50.00 USD  
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Please bring bedding, toiletries, bibles, musical instruments, etc., and a heart prepared for a great spiritual week.

*May the Lord bless you all.*

**For a listing of other dates and contact information  
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