

"PREJUDICE IN THE CHURCH"



Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Hey! CALLING ALL "good" SAMARITANS!

COME ON AND "BLESS" THE LORD WITH US!!!!!!

HALLELUJAH!!!! HALLELUJAH!!!!

YES! THERE IS "PREJUDICE" IN THE CHURCH! HOWEVER, IN THE FACE OF "EVERYTHING" THAT WE SEE GOING ON IN THE WORLD TODAY... troubles, being "set off"

by the parole board, seg/isolation, distress, murder, natural disasters, destruction, perils, divorce, EBOLA,

and YOU TOO! HAVE A REASON

thrown into confusion, heartbreak, panic, turmoils, death, /S/S, etc.....

ME, (Meagan) WE STILL TO

"BLESS



OUR

GOD”!!!!!!!

FOR HE “ALONE” IS WORTHY TO BE PRAISED!!!!!!

AND ALL IN FAVOR SAY, “AYE”!! Yea!! the “AYES” have it, face down! Well, our dear Brothers! This is Sister Meagan, again! And, it is OCTOBER again! WOW!!! Can you believe it? It is almost another year, GONE! Time is “flying”, and people have been dying, But... OUR GOD IS “STILL” IN CONTROL!! AMEN? AMEN! YET, PREJUDICE IS STILL IN THE CHURCH!!!! NOW, LET ME TELL YOU A “TRUE STORY”!



JESUS CONFRONTS THE
CHURCH’S PREJUDICE



O.K. SO, LET’S LOOK AT A STORY IN LUKE 10:27-37 THAT JESUS TELLS
US ABOUT.

THIS STORY WAS REALLY MORE THAN JUST A PARABLE, IT WAS A “MORALISTIC ALLEGORY”. SO LET ME FIRST SET THE STAGE FOR YOU! I NEED YOU TO VISUALIZE THE STORY IN YOUR IMAGINATION AS I TELL IT TO YOU. FIRST, WE HAVE A CHURCH SETTING! THERE IS A HIGH PRIEST AND OTHER LEVITES THERE. THEY WOULD BE THE EQUIVALENT OF A BISHOP, A PASTOR AND ELDERS IN OUR CHURCH TODAY. O.K. REMEMBER, JESUS WAS

GOING ABOUT DOING THE FATHER'S WILL. BUT JUST AS HE WAS DOING GOOD, (AS ALWAYS) EVIL WAS PRESENT (ROMANS 7:21). PASTOR CARMEN OFTEN TELLS US TO WATCH OUT FOR THE ENEMY AFTER GAINING A VICTORY.



ONCE UPON A TIME, JESUS HAD JUST FINISHED REJOICING AND GIVING GOD THE GLORY FOR THE (70) SEVENTY DISCIPLES THAT HAD RETURNED WITH A GOOD REPORT AND BEFORE HE KNEW IT...HE WAS BEING “ATTACKED” BY THE DEVIL THROUGH A “CERTAIN LAWYER”. BACK THEN, A LAWYER WAS NOT AN ATTORNEY AS WE KNOW THEM TO BE. HE WAS ONE WHO PREACHED AND TAUGHT OTHERS IN THE TEMPLE EVERYDAY. HE WAS A RELIGIOUS LEADER AND A PRIEST IN THE TEMPLE. HE WAS A TEACHER/AN EXPERT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW OF THE BIBLE AND HE KNEW IT LIKE THE BACK OF HIS HAND. HE WAS INDISPUTABLE AND UNQUESTIONABLE WHEN IT CAME TO THE WORD OF GOD.

HE WAS NO JOKE (AT LEAST NOT YET). HIS WHOLE INTENTION WAS TO TEMPT JESUS BY PUTTING HIM ON THE SPOT AND EMBARRASSING HIM IN FRONT OF THE WHOLE CONGREGATION OF PEOPLE! HE WAS TRYING TO “DISCREDIT” JESUS IN THE EYES OF THE PEOPLE! WHY?

BECAUSE HIS WHOLE CONGREGATION HAD BEEN FOLLOWING JESUS AROUND, WATCHING AND LISTENING TO HIM PREACH. THEY SAW JESUS HEALING EVERYBODY WITHOUT BEING PREJUDICE. THEY SAW HIM “LOVING” EVERYBODY, AND PREACHING THAT EVERYONE SHOULD LOVE EACH OTHER, “EVEN THE SAMARITANS”!

THIS WAS A DIRECT CONTRADICTION TO WHAT THEIR (JEWISH LAWYERS/PASTORS/BISHOPS,) HAD BEEN TEACHING THEM. THEY BEGAN TO QUESTION WHO WAS RIGHT IN THEIR TEACHINGS... (THEIR TEACHERS OR JESUS)? AFTER ALL, THEY WERE BEING TAUGHT TO “HATE” THE SAMARITANS AND TO BE PREJUDICED AGAINST THEM. SEE JESUS TAUGHT “LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF”. THIS MADE THEIR PASTOR, ELDERS AND BISHOPS (LAWYERS) FEARFUL OF LOSING THEIR CONGREGATION TO JESUS. THEREFORE THEY WERE ANGRY AND DETERMINED TO SHOW JESUS UP IN FRONT OF “ALL OF THE PEOPLE”!

THEY GOT TOGETHER AND CHOSE THIS ONE LAWYER TO BE THE ONE TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST JESUS. HE DID NOT KNOW THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO MAKE A REAL “FOOL-ZOOL-LIAC” OUT OF HIMSELF!

SO, AT THAT, THE BIBLE SAYS THAT THIS “CERTAIN” LAWYER STOOD UP! THAT WORD “CERTAIN” MEANT THAT HE WAS NO STRANGER TO ANYONE. EVERYBODY KNEW HIM AND HE WAS VERY PROMINENT IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY. THEY ALSO SAW HOW HE BEHAVED TOWARDS THE SAMARITANS EVERYDAY. HE SHOWED LOVE AND KINDNESS TO HIS CONGREGATION WHEN THEY CAME FOR HELP. BUT, HE “SHUT UP HIS BOWELS OF COMPASSIONS” AGAINST THE SAMARITANS, WHEN THEY HAD A NEED. (JUST LIKE CHURCHES TODAY). “YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER OF THIS CHURCH”!

WELL, ALREADY BEING ANGRY WITH JESUS, HE HAD BEEN SITTING THERE, (IN CHURCH/TEMPLE), THE WHOLE TIME OBSERVING JESUS! HE WAS JUST WATCHING AND WAITING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO “TEMPT” (TO TEST OR PROVOKE) THE LORD.

HIS MOTIVES WERE WRONG! SO, VERY CUNNINGLY, HE ASKED JESUS, “RABBI, WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO IN ORDER TO INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE”? NOW, JESUS KNEW THAT HE WAS NOT ASKING THIS QUESTION SINCERELY! SEE, JESUS KNEW THAT THE LAWYER ALREADY KNEW THE ANSWER. THE ANSWER WAS IN THE LAW THAT THIS MAN TAUGHT DAILY TO THE PEOPLE, IN THE TEMPLE. BUT, REMEMBER, THIS PRIEST’S MOTIVATION AND INTENTION WAS TO BRING JESUS TO AN OPEN SHAME. NOTICE “HOW” JESUS ANSWERED HIM... (WITH ANOTHER QUESTION)!

JESUS ANSWERED, “WAIT A MINUTE NOW, YOU TEACH THE LAW! SO, YOU TELL ME... WHAT IS WRITTEN IN THE LAW... THE SCRIPTURE? HOW DO YOU UNDERSTAND IT? WHAT DOES IT SOUND LIKE THE “SCRIPTURE” IS SAYING TO YOU?” JESUS REFERRED THE LAWYER BACK TO WHAT HE WAS SO “EXPERT” IN.

SO HE ANSWERED VERY ARROGANTLY, “I UNDERSTAND IT TO MEAN JUST WHAT IT SAYS.... *“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.”* **Jesus saw this “UGLY SPIRIT” but paid it no mind. He simply gave the lawyer his props for answering correctly.**

“Yes! You have answered correctly! And at the same time, watch how cool Jesus is! Very calmly, he admonished him saying “do this and you will live.” What?! Jesus was telling him “Very Tactfully” to practice what you preach and “stop” leading the congregation “WRONG”.

Yes! Jesus was telling the lawyer to start living what he has been teaching and preaching to others. Can’t you just hear the deep

sound of “Oooooohhhhhh’s” and “Ah-h-h-h-h-h’s” sweep over the crowds of people when they heard this? OOooo-WEeeee!!!!

“Uh-oh”, Jesus no you DIDN’T! You did not just **BUST HIS BUBBLE, DID YOU?** Oh yes HE did! Now, y’all, after I had *picked up my face from off of the floor*, I would have just BOWED OUT GRACEFULLY AND LET WELL ENOUGH ALONE! But, oh no! That would be TOO MUCH LIKE RIGHT! So, instead of the lawyer, (Bishop, Pastor, Elder, Leader) simply saying “Yes, sir”, he let HIS PRIDE make him look like an even bigger “FOOL-ZOOL-LIAC”!

The Bible says that he was willing to *still JUSTIFY* himself, in order to hold up his reputation in the eyes of the people. He was more concerned about his “self-image” than he was about the “*state of his heart.*” Why is it that we just won’t leave “well enough” alone? It is all because of Foolish “P_R_I_D_E”.

Pride will keep you from humbling down, bring you down low and make you *unwisely* challenge Jesus (to your *own hurt and self-destruction*). Listen, this man knew that he was *guilty* of not showing love to the Samaritans. He knew that he “HATED” them. And, he also knew that he was teaching his flock to be prejudiced against these people.

He should have just humbled down, admitted it and said, “Lord, HELP ME”. BUT NO! HIS “EGO” MADE HIM BE “WILLING TO ARGUE HIS CASE”... AGAINST JESUS! He should have just “SHUT UP” his mouth! He felt, “I will argue to the last with this Jesus and make him look bad in the eyes of my flock. **I must JUSTIFY myself** or how can I ever show my face around here again in front of the people”?

Justify means: 1. to show yourself (your action, your claim, your statement, etc.) to be just or right: 2. to defend or uphold as warranted, warranted, merited or well-grounded: 3. to declare or show yourself or others to be “free from blame or guilt”; to absolve.

Well Men, in short, it means **to look like a fool!** This is exactly what this lawyer (priest, Pastor, church-goer) was doing! He knew that others were watching his life, at all times. If he did not make Jesus look bad, it would cause the people to see him for what he really was.

Listen, Brothers! This man did not understand that “honest confession” is GOOD FOR YOUR SOUL. What happened to “Confess your faults, one to another, then PRAY one for another that you may be healed”? Yes healed! (mentally, spiritually, physically, emotionally, sexually, financially, socially and in every area of your life)! What happened to just simply humbling down and dropping all “pride and ego”?

Look, before Saul became Paul in the Bible, he was killing God’s people left and right. He thought that he was right in what he was doing. He had been raised up hating the Christians. He thought that he was doing God a service. However, God knocked him down off of his horse, on the road to Damascus.

It was then that he IMMEDIATELY saw that he was WRONG! He plead guilty, repented and got it together right then. In front of his WHOLE ARMY OF MEN, he confessed that “JESUS WAS LORD”! And, LOOK HOW GOD USED PAUL AFTER THAT! He wrote over 1/3 of the New Testament! He dropped all of his pride and ego. Even Jonah, with his prejudiced self, finally repented! Oh, but “NO”!

Not this renowned LAWYER! Even when you show some people their faults and they KNOW that they are wrong, they would rather

ARGUE and OMIT than to ADMIT! What **fool** spirits!!! They still hold on to “JUSTIFICATION”. They just have GOT TO HAVE THE LAST WORD! That is precisely what this Lawyer did.

He STILL attempted” to justify himself! Jesus had said what he had to say and was willing to let it go. But, not this MAN. He interrupted Jesus by “BOLDLY” asking, “**AND WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?!?**” Now, I could see it if he really did want to know WHO HIS NEIGHBOR WAS, BUT HE DID NOT! The Bible made it very CLEAR that his whole purpose was to “TEMPT” Jesus! When he asked Jesus this question, his *deceptive “messy” aim* was to see how Jesus would answer this question in the midst of the mixed crowd of Jews, Samaritans and Gentiles.

You see, he was hoping that if Jesus referred to the Samaritans as their “neighbor”, then there would be a “ROWDY” division and UPROAR among **the Samaritans and anti-Samaritans!** Then, his desire was for the **crowd** to turn against Jesus. Get this! Jesus doesn’t get alarmed and frustrated! Jesus simply answers his question by telling a parable (story).

Jesus knew that the people of that day LOVED TO HEAR STORIES! A **good** storyteller would get their **undivided attention**. And, now this ignorant Lawyer has forced Jesus to TELL A STORY! He knew that the very second that he said, “**LET ME TELL YOU THIS STORY**” that he now had their complete, unbroken, exclusive attention. These people were NOT going to miss a solitary thing!

Jesus never lifted his voice, **but a ‘silent’ hush swept over the crowd as He began to speak.** He referred to an incident that happened with a “certain rich man”. The people could see the “story” unfold in their imagination as Jesus told it. They envisioned the rich man who had on very expensive clothing.

They imagined the man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho.

And, they dreadfully anticipated a wretched group of *thieves* violently attacking him. As Jesus continued, the people mentally went inside of the story as they could realistically see **ROBBERS** beat him severely, strip him of his expensive clothes and leave him half dead on the side of the road!

Suddenly, a priest came walking on the same side of the road and saw the “dying” man from afar off. On purpose, the priest crossed over to the **OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD** and **passed by the poor man**. He did that to avoid helping the half-dead man. Now, Brothers, can’t you see the (lawyer/priest’s/pastor’s) eyes getting as big as a golf ball? See, he knew that Jesus had *peeped his hold card* and he had no defense. He also knew that Jesus was talking about him and all people knew it too! **Jesus went on to say that a Levite had done the exact same thing to avoid helping the victim. Can’t you see the faces of the Synagogue leaders and high priests (that were just as guilty as the Lawyer), as they turned beet red too?**

See, they were the ones who had teed the lawyer up to stupidly get up in Jesus face. In Jesus’s story, ALL of them were guilty of not helping the victim! But here is what takes the cake! The entire crowd, including the ones who didn’t help the man, are on pins and needles wanting to know what happened *to the half-dead man!* Did anyone ever help him? And, if any one stopped to help him... **WHO?**

Jesus next words were... **BUT A SAMARITAN!** (yes, “samaritan” the hated, the forgotten, the looked down on, the rejected, the overlooked, the ill-favored, the unloved, the belittled, the inferior, the have-nots, the “ain’t-gots”, the one’s that these HOLY MEN HATED, etc.) **Yes! A “NO GOODDED SAMARITAN” (in the**

eyes of the HOLIER THAN THOU’S)... as he travelled, came where the man was. He saw him and had *PITY* and *COMPASSION ON* him. The Samaritan *hurried to his aid*, bandaged his wounds, poured in oil and wine as a healing balm, took him to a good hotel, delayed his OWN TRAVEL PLANS FOR A DAY, stayed with the man all through the night and physically took care of him. WOW! **(Remember, he did not know this man). The next day, before he left, he paid “way more” than what it would cost for room, board, care for the man, his *extended stay* and other expenses that would be necessary to help this man recover and get back on his feet. Then, he told the Hotel Owner, ***“When I come back, if it cost “any more” than what I am leaving you now, I will pay you”!*****

The hotel proprietor knew the “certain” Samaritan man to be a MAN of his word. Jesus asked, “Now, Which of these three (3) do you think was a neighbor to the man that fell among thieves?” Wait a minute Jesus! YOU got it backwards didn’t you? **The lawyer had asked, “Who is my neighbor”?**

But now, after this WHOLE story, **Jesus is STILL asking a question! Only, this time, the question is “Which of these three (3) was a neighbor to the dying man”!** WOW! How awesome! Humiliated, the lawyer quietly and slowly replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus simply said the *very same thing* that he had said before: **AGAIN, “Go and do likewise.”**

Notice that Jesus never changes his tone or his answer. He is the same, yesterday, today and forever more (***Hebrews 13:8***). Jesus really had *mercy* on the “certain lawyer”. Lovingly, He enlightened this Lawyer’s understanding, allowed him to come face to face with the *prejudice* that was in his OWN heart and LET HIM LIVE! **He gave him time so that he could get it together!** God said, It is not my will that any should perish, but that ALL should

come to repentance! **Why must we die before time?** How sad it is that God's Church is perishing for LACK OF KNOWLEDGE?

Being prejudiced today does not have to be a lack of knowledge! **No one was BORN PREJUDICED!** It is learned behavior! Anything learned can be forgotten! **JUST REPENT, PRAY AND DO IT!**

That demonic spirit of "prejudice" (HELL) was there in his HEART, before this lawyer ever preached his first sermon, sang his first song, shouted his first shout or gave his first offering.

Then, it was STILL there after he had preached his BEST sermon, sang his BEST song, shouted his BEST shout and gave his BEST offering! God uses us RAGGEDY! Thank God for Jesus, who **made him** come to reality of the wrong that he was carrying around in his heart. He was taught this way of prejudice and to hate the Samaritans. **Search your heart today! Is any "HELL" IN YOU?**

There are all types of prejudices in the world today: Racial prejudice, gender prejudice, religious prejudice, age prejudice, sexual prejudice, class prejudice, and disability prejudice are just a few of them. Jesus is giving us a chance to come **face to face** with the underlying, root causes and **undealt with** issues of the heart. How many MORE folks got to die before you REALLY get the message? The '**fear**' of God is the beginning of wisdom.

My dear Brothers, won't you please explore your heart today and get in Jesus's face, with all humility! Ask GOD to show you your OWN heart! He will do it! And, he will change you and your heart! Your biggest problem and worst enemy is YOU!

Below is a list of (5) "different prejudices" that we find in the world today:

- 1) GENDER PREJUDICE:** Stereotype refers to the attitude that all members of a particular gender -- all women, all girls, all men, all boys -- are a certain type of person. From this stereotype emerges **sexism** -- the belief that members of one gender are **inferior** to another. ***For example***, the attitude that **girls don't understand math and science as well as boys** do is based on a long-held stereotype about basic female intelligence. Or, ***Women cannot preach the gospel or pastor a flock of God's people is a gender prejudice that has kept some men and women from receiving true deliverance because they are rejecting God's messengers. Listen to the Man inside of the Woman! But, whatever you do, "GET DELIVERED"! Hell is hot! And Brothers, HELL is NOT prejudiced! Ask the Rich man.***
- 2) RACIAL PREJUDICE:** *For example, when the owner of a large hotel chain chooses not to employ those of a certain race or ethnicity because he believes they are in some way inferior to another, he is discriminating based upon a specific kind of prejudice called racism. He has not taken the time to get to know individuals in this minority group, and is "pre-judging" them as inferior based on generalizations and stereotypes.*
- 3) AGE PREJUDICE:** When townships and states pass laws limiting the rights of children to participate in legislation that might affect them, they are acting on an age prejudice -- or ageism. In this case, the belief is that those below a certain age cannot understand or contribute meaningfully to lawmaking dialogues. Conversely, when an elder-care facility refuses to install Internet technology because of the belief that older people don't have the energy or ability to learn web navigation, they are acting upon ageism.
- 4) CLASS PREJUDICE:** *Classism is the belief or attitude that those of a certain economic class are inferior to another class.*

In some government structures, classism is employed by the ruling class as a basis to limit the rights of the lower class. For instance, by not extending funding to repair and renovate old schools or build new ones in low-income communities, the ruling class is sending the message that lower-class individuals are not entitled to quality education opportunities.

5) DISABILITY PREJUDICE (called Ableism): Ableism refers to the belief that those with physical or mental disabilities or handicaps are inferior to able-bodied people. Discrimination against the disabled is born of this belief and involves limiting the rights of disabled individuals to basic things that able-bodied people take for granted, such as adequate housing, health care, employment and education.

WHAT IS PREJUDICE?

It means:

- 1. To have an unfavorable opinion or feeling formed beforehand or without knowledge, thought, or reason.*
- 2. Unreasonable feelings, opinions, or attitudes, especially of a hostile nature, regarding a racial, religious, or national group.*
- 3. An intolerance of or dislike for people of a specific race, religion, RESPECT OF PERSONS! And etc.*

Listen, all too often, people give the devil TOO MUCH CREDIT, especially during the month of OCTOBER! That is just what the devil wants! Attention! Any kind of attention, even NEGATIVE!

Listen, let's get one thing straight, right from the beginning, "NOTHING CAN HAPPEN UNLESS OUR GOD ALLOWS IT"!!!! And, I mean "NOTHING"!

Our “JEHOVAH JIREH” is the one who is in control of EVERYTHING, EVERYBODY, EVERY SEASON, EVERY YEAR, EVERY MONTH, EVERY DAY, EVERY HOUR, EVERY MINUTE, AND EVERY SECOND! Oh, satan we refuse to “PERISH” for lack of knowledge or “BE IGNORANT OF YOUR EVIL DEVICES” (Witchcraft, Black Magic, Hocus Pocus, Druids, Wicca (white witches), Dark witches, Black Cats, Wizards, Warlocks, Potions, Spells, Chants, Witch Doctors, Queen of the Sea, Serpents, Spiders, Powder, Dust, Necromancy, Demons, Goblins, Halloween, OR PREJUDICE!)..... THE DEVIL IS A “LIE”!!!!!! Satan the LORD REBUKES YOU!!! AND, THE BLOOD OF JESUS IS AGAINST YOU!!! HALLELUJAH!!

COME ON “GOOD SAMARITANS”, SHOUT
“HALLELUJAH”!!!!!!

**HOW MANY OF YOU THINK THAT YOU KNOW WHAT A
“GOOD SAMARITAN” IS?**

**FIRST, LET US LOOK AT A LITTLE BIT OF THEIR HISTORY, TO
SEE WHO THE SAMARITANS REALLY ARE:**

Until the middle of the 20th century it was customary to believe that the Samaritans originated from a mixture of the people living in Samaria and other people at the time of the conquest of Samaria by Assyria (722–721 BC). The Samaritans are the direct descendants of the Joseph tribes, Ephraim and Manasseh, and until the 17th century AD they possessed a high priesthood descending directly from Aaron through Eleazar and Phinehas. They claim to have continuously occupied their ancient territory and to have been at peace with other Israelite tribes until the time when Eli disrupted the

Northern cult by moving from Shechem to Shiloh and attracting some northern Israelites to his new followers there.

They are all of the tribe of Joseph, **except those of the tribe of Benjamin**, but this traditional branch of people, which, the Chronicles assert, was established at Gaza in earlier days, seems to have disappeared. **There exists an aristocratic feeling amongst the different families in this community, and some are very proud over their pedigree and the great men it had produced.**

Tensions were between the Samaritans and the
Judeans,

Just like in the Church today!

The narratives in Genesis about the rivalries among the twelve sons of Jacob describe tensions between north and south. They were temporarily united in the [United Monarchy](#), but after the death of Solomon **the kingdom split in two**, the [Kingdom of Israel](#) with its capital [Samaria](#) and the [Kingdom of Judea](#) with its capital [Jerusalem](#). The [Deuteronomistic history](#), written in Judah, portrayed Israel as a *sinful kingdom*, divinely punished for its idolatry and iniquity by being destroyed by the Assyrians in 720 BC.

The tensions continued in the postexilic period. Chronicles is more inclusive than Ezra-Nehemiah since for the Chronicler the *ideal is of one Israel with twelve tribes*; the Chronicler concentrates on Judah and ignores northern Israel.

The Samaritans claimed that they were the true Israel who were descendants of the "[Ten Lost Tribes](#)" taken into Assyrian captivity. **They had their own temple on Mount Gerizim and claimed that it was the original sanctuary.** Moreover, they claimed that **their**

version of the Pentateuch was the original and that the Jews had a falsified text produced by Ezra during the Babylonian exile.

Brothers, get this! Both the Jewish and Samaritan religious leaders taught that it was wrong to have any contact with the opposite group, and neither was to enter each other's territories or even to speak to one another. How SAD!!

During the New Testament period, although the tensions went unrecognized by Roman authorities, Josephus reports **numerous violent confrontations between Jews and Samaritans throughout the first half of the first century. So you see, division in the church did not originate with you men of God. Satan plotted this mess from the beginning to keep God's people at odds with each other.**

YOU CANNOT GET ANYTHING DONE WHEN YOU ARE "DIVIDED"! OUR GOD IS THE AUTHOR OF PEACE AND NOT CONFUSION!

According to the Jewish version of events, when the Judean exile ended in **538 BC** and the exiles began returning home from Babylon, *they found their former homeland populated by other people who claimed the land as their own and Jerusalem, their former glorious capital, in ruins.*

The inhabitants worshiped the Pagan gods, but when the then-sparsely populated areas became infested with dangerous wild beasts, they appealed to the king of Assyria for Israelite priests to instruct them on how to worship the "***God of that country.***"

The result was a "syncretistic religion", in which national groups worshiped the Hebrew god, but they also served their own gods in accordance with the customs of the nations from which they had been brought. According to **2Chronicles 36:22-23**, the Persian

emperor, [Cyrus the Great](#) (reigned 559 BC – 530 BC), permitted the return of the exiles to their homeland and ordered the rebuilding of the Temple in [Jerusalem](#) ([Zion](#)). The prophet Isaiah identified Cyrus as "the Lord's Messiah" ([Mashiach](#); see [Isaiah 45:1](#)). The word "[Messiah](#)" refers to an anointed one, such as a king or priest.

[Ezra 4](#) says that the local inhabitants of the land ***offered to assist with the building of the new temple*** during the time of [Zerubbabel](#), **but their offer was rejected.** According to Ezra, this rejection precipitated a further interference not only with the rebuilding of the temple but also with the reconstruction of Jerusalem.

The text is not clear on this matter, but one possibility is that these "people of the land" were thought of as Samaritans. We do know that Samaritan and Jewish alienation increased, and that the Samaritans eventually built their own temple on [Mount Gerizim](#), near [Shechem](#). Isn't this just like the Churches today? Instead of working together in unity, and getting the job done sooner, they take years and years to do a simple task. How STUPID! Together we stand! Divided we fall!

The *rebuilding of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem* took several *decades*. The project was first led by [Sheshbazzar](#) (about 538 BC), later by [Zerubbabel](#) and [Jeshua](#), and later still by [Haggai](#) and [Zechariah](#) (520–515 BC). The work was *finally* completed in 515 BC.

The term "Cuthim" applied by Jews to the Samaritans had clear [pejorative](#) connotations, *implying that they were interlopers* brought in from [Kutha](#) in Mesopotamia and rejecting their claim of descent from the ancient Tribes of Israel.

Now, that you have had a **brief synopsis** of the Samaritan's background and have seen **PREJUDICE** between the tribes, you will understand why this **STORY IN LUKE IS SO VERY IMPORTANT TO THE BODY OF CHRIST, TODAY!**

“BLESS” THE LORD OUR BROTHERS!!!
WE RAN ACROSS THIS LITTLE PASSAGE CALLED
“SPREAD THE STUPIDITY”
AND THOUGHT IT MIGHT MAKE YOU “SMILE”!
WANT TO HEAR IT? HERE IT GO!!!!

Only in America... do drugstores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions, while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front!!!

Only in America...do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries and “DIET” coke!

Only in America...do banks leave vault doors open and then chain the ink pens to the counters.

Only in America...do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the garage.

Only in America...do we but hotdogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight!

Only in America...do they have drive-up ATM machines with Braille lettering.

EVER WONDER... Why the sun lightens the hair, but darkens our skin?

Why can't women put on mascara with their mouth closed?

Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?

Why is "abbreviated" such a long word?

Why is it that doctors call what they do "practice"?

Why is lemon juice made with "artificial" flavor and dish washing liquid made with "real" lemons?

Why is the man that invests all your money called a BROKER?

Why is the time of day with the "slowest" traffic called "rush hour"?

Why isn't there "mouse-flavored" cat food?

Why didn't Noah swat those 'two' mosquitoes?

Why do they "sterilize" the needle for lethal injections?

You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes?

Why don't they make the "whole plane" out of that stuff?!

Why don't sheep "shrink" when it rains?

Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?

I like this one!!! If "con" is the opposite of "pro", is Congress the opposite of progress? H-H-M-m-m-m-m-m.....

If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the "terminal"?



Now that you have smiled at least once, it's your turn to "spread the stupidity" and send this to someone you want to bring a smile to (maybe even a chuckle)...in other words, send it to everyone. We all need to

smile every once in a while.

NOW "YOU" SPREAD THE STUPIDITY!! (IT'S AT

LEAST GOOD FOR A SMILE, HUH?)



HEY, BROTHERS! LISTEN! HERE IS SOMETHING ELSE!

One of our members gave this to Pastor Carmen. So, we thought we would share it with you, too! You see, it almost describes our pastor to a "tee"! And if you are really called and chosen by God, it probably describes you too!

Anyway, it encouraged Pastor Carmen to keep on pressing on! We pray that it will also 'encourage' some of you that are "called" to be a pastor, so "hold on"!!!

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A PASTOR?

HAVE YOU EVER TRIED PREACHING MORE THAN 365 SERMONS PER YEAR TO THE "SAME" PEOPLE, AND SEE VERY LITTLE CHANGE?

Have you ever really known that you "heard" from God to preach a certain sermon and the people (disrespectfully) play with their "cell

phones” (all through the service)? Whisper and talk? Write notes to each other? Walk back and forth? Look down at the bible with their eyes closed (pretending to be reading the word)? Ignore you? Or “Just go to sleep”?

Then, as soon as trouble comes, **HERE THEY COME?! Needing help for the SAME thing that you preached? Set your face as a flint and preach the WORD, whether they hear or whether they ignore you... JUST PREACH THE WORD! (Ezekiel 2:5-7; Isaiah 50:7; 2Timothy 4:2-4). Read these scriptures and be encouraged.**

HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO “GET ALONG” WITH HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE AND YET “PLEASE THE LORD” BY REFUSING TO COMPROMISE WITH MAN’S SIN?

Have you ever preached the “unadulterated word of God” and the people got “offended” with you instead of with “God”? (don’t shoot the postman, he only delivers the mail)! Go “BEAT” God up! It’s hard to kick against the pricks. (Acts 9:5-6).

HAVE YOU EVER PREACHED TO SOMEONE AND THEY KNEW THAT GOD WAS TALKING “DIRECTLY” TO THEM? AND, THEY KNEW THAT IT HAD TO BE “GOD” BECAUSE THERE WAS “NO WAY” THAT YOU COULD KNOW THE “intimacy AND secrecy of the message? YET, THEY GOT MAD AT YOU, LEFT THE CHURCH AND OPENED THEIR MOUTH “AGAINST” YOU AND THE CHURCH? Then , when BAD things happen to them, they call you a WITCH? Don’t they understand that THEY ARE THE WITCH? Their OWN rebellious SIN is their witchcraft! (1Samuel 15:23).

Have you ever pondered over a way to “move or encourage” people to attend “every service” (for their own good and for the benefit of their

own soul), yet they listen to satan telling them that every thing else is more important?

HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO SAVE “EVERYBODY” ELSE’S FAMILY AND “CHILDREN” AND IT SEEMS THAT YOURS ARE DETERMINED TO GO ASTRAY? THEN, THOSE SAME SAINTS WHOSE CHILDREN “YOU” BREAK YOUR NECK TO HELP SAVE, POINT FINGERS AND “TALK ABOUT” YOUR CHILDREN INSTEAD OF SHOWING THE LOVE OF “JESUS” TO THEM?

Have you ever had people “track” you down for prayer? They get their deliverance and you do not see or hear from them again “until” they get into “trouble” again and need you to pray again?

HAVE YOU EVER SPENT HOURS AND HOURS OF SLEEPLESS DAYS AND NIGHTS IN FASTING, PRAYER AND PREPARATION AND FELT THAT “VERY” LITTLE WAS ACCOMPLISHED?

Have you ever opened your heart, the doors of your home and your purse or wallet to people, without ever getting a mere verbal “thank you”?

INSTEAD, YOU GET, “I DID NOT ASK YOU TO DO IT”! OR, YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE DONE IT! OR, YOU KNEW WHEN I ASKED YOU TO LOAN IT TO ME, THAT I WAS NOT GOING TO “PAY” YOU BACK!!! OR, DID GOD TELL YOU TO DO IT? OR, YOU THE SUCKA!

Have you ever tried to bind up a broken heart or re-establish a broken home? Then, they teamed up “against” you ?

DID YOU POUR OUT “EVERY ENERGY” TRYING TO CONVERT AND RESTORE A SOUL, AND YOU GET NO RESPONSE AT ALL? DID

YOU EVER TRY TO LEAD “MANY” BUT VERY “FEW” WOULD FOLLOW?

HAVE YOU EVER “LOVINGLY” TOOK SOMEONE UNDER YOUR WING, SHIELDED THEM, PROVIDED FOR THEM AND PROTECTED THEM AS IF THEY WERE YOUR “OWN” AND THEY “BETRAYED” AND BOLDLY “STOLE” FROM YOU, THE FIRST CHANCE THEY GOT? *If not, then how can you know what it means to be a pastor? (Pastor Carmen have actually had ALL of this done to her). But, PRAISE GOD, she still “LOVES”! And, for others who do not have a clue of what it is like to be a pastor, stop judging, lying, backbiting, pointing fingers and trying to find fault! Touch not “god’s anointed”! You are “only” doing*



yourself and your “family” harm! STOP!

AND NOW! From the desk of Pastor Carmen:
(W-E-L-L maybe it’s not “THIS” bad) smile!



SMILE!

My Precious Sons and Brothers in Christ Jesus our Lord!!!

**The “devil” is trying to wear out the PATIENCE OF GOD’S
REAL, TRUE SAINTS!!!!!!**

***I prayed for you this morning*, with a heart overflowing with gratitude, love and hope that “YOUR FAITH FAIL NOT”! God is watching your response! So, you have not gotten promoted yet, huh? Well, YOU must give God some “PROMOTABLE EVIDENCE”!**

I have received SO MANY letters from TOO many of you talking about how “discouraged” you are because you were “set off” for a few more years by the Parole Board. Don’t you “DARE” throw your hands up and give up! And, then you STOPPED going to Church and let the devil “trick” you into NOT Praising God TOO? No Sir! The devil is a lie! And, stop allowing every little thing someone says to get you into the “fool” spirit of offense! TRUE OR NOT TRUE!!

If you tell me that I “STINK” I am going to simply “Thank You” and GO TAKE A BATH! Why get mad at someone trying to help you? You shall KNOW the TRUTH and the TRUTH will MAKE YOU free! (John 8:32). Anything that “MAKES” you, “HURTS” you! And if it’s a lie, who cares? A dead man can’t feel NOTHING! Die to that old sensitive, pride filled flesh! Paul died daily! I do too! So, do you REALLY want to be MADE free OR not? Get over yourself.

Listen my dear ones and please hear the things that my HEART is saying to you. I LOVE YOU! But, Jesus LOVES you much

more than I do! Therefore, I will NOT COMPASSION YOU TO HELL! I know that YOU want to get OUT OF PRISON! WHO WOULD NOT?

But, my heartfelt question is “WHY”? Listen, we got enough “wife- beaters” out here already! We have got enough DISRESPECT OUT HERE! ENOUGH PRIDE, NASTY ATTITUDES, BAD Tempers, Crime, Homosexuals, Child Abusers, Daddies that CORRUPT their precious little Sons and Daughters and etc! Please, GET DELIVERED FIRST! Lose that demonic “Prison Mentality of Bondage” and “Transform your Mind with God’s Freedom as a King”!

THEN, WATCH GOD LET YOU WALK OUT OF THAT FRONT GATE! PLEASE HEAR MY INNERMOST HEART! MEN OF GOD, you must STOP freaking out over every little thing! Acting like a little child! Are you a mouse or a Man? God is TRYING to tell you SOMETHING! Get quiet and listen to him! Seek first the Kingdom of God and his RIGHTEOUSNESS AND “everything” else will be added to you! INCLUDING YOUR RELEASE! You’re a KING!

See, too many put the cart before the horse! They want to be released before meeting “GOD’S” requirements! WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE SAYING, “HALLELUJAH ANYHOW”? Or, it is well? YOU are “STILL” breathing! Dear one, it could have been the other way! Those “chains” that seem to bind you,

should serve **ONLY** to remind you, that “they” drop “powerless” behind you, when you **PRAISE THE LORD!**

Yes, I said when you “**PRAISE THE LORD**”. *God is seeking for someone that he can trust to STAND and ENDURE SOMETHING!! Even in the face of trials, tribulations, heartbreaks and turmoils! Again, GOD is WATCHING YOUR RESPONSE!*

I am so SERIOUS about the BODY OF CHRIST (quickly) getting wrapped up, tied up and tangled up in the Lord. I cannot emphasize enough, how serious the TIMES ARE! Yes, if we look at things in the natural, we could easily “faint”.

HERE’S A LITTLE BIT OF PASTOR CARMEN’S “TRUE” TESTIMONY: *Men of God, listen! I can truthfully say like David, “If I had not believed to see the “goodness” of the Lord, right here in the LAND OF THE LIVING, I would have FAINTED (perished) a long time ago”! (Psalms 27:13-14).*

It seems like ALL OF MY LIFE I HAVE HAD TO SUPERNATURALLY “encourage myself” in the Lord’s WORD! I was saved at five (5) years old and filled with the REAL HOLY GHOST! From the time I entered first grade I was picked out to be picked on, talked about, bullied and known as the “SMART BUT ODD GIRL”! God’s people are peculiar people. (1Peter 2:9). But, CHOSEN and ROYAL!!!

The hand of God was always on my life and I never tried to run from it. I knew right from the start that I was born to LOVE the Lord! But, I had NO IDEA what I was in for!!! Rejection, Persecution and obnoxious maltreatment became a part of my life. (even from family that you never did anything to, but tried to love and help). But I thank God that he “instilled” inside of me HIS SELF-ESTEEM, HIS FOR-GIVENESS and HIS RESOLUTE DETERMINATION TO PRESS ON AND TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT MY OWN SELF, REGARDLESS OF NEGATIVE WORDS SPOKEN ABOUT ME! People’s Ignorance is IRRELEVANT to me entering the KINGDOM!

From the age of seven (7), I lived with a very “abusive alcoholic stepfather”. ONLY A LOVING AND MERCIFUL GOD COULD HEAL AND TRANSFORM MY HEART TO FORGIVE HIM! AND, “PRAISE GOD”, God DID transform my heart AND I DID forgive (for real)!!!!.

Our living conditions were extremely poor with tremendous hardships (especially when they did not HAVE to be). My mother was not allowed to work. And “rodent infestations were horrible”. I mean, BIG HUGE GOPHER RATS walked around like they ‘owned’ the place, in the raggedy three room shotgun house, where all of us kids had to sleep together. They were on top of the stove eating out of the pots. These rats were bigger than my mother’s newborn 10 pound babies. (she was the mother of ten).

One morning, my mother found a “snake” in our bedroom closet. My cousin Nita told me of times that snakes were coming up through our toilet stool. God protected us! It seemed like our “lights”, gas and water STAYED cut off. We did not have a phone OR air conditioning! I was always a straight “A” student, but I hardly ever went to school. However, God always allowed me to pass. MY GOD taught me himself, at home. But, praise God, he allowed me to give the Valedictorian speech at my graduation and I am a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham, with a BSN degree. (REGISTERED NURSE). Don’t tell me my God is not “BAD”!

My mother was an Evangelist at the time, and spent her days OUT ministering OR fixing the neighbors’ hair. This is how God blessed us with food most of the time. I had to stay home babysitting and cooking on a “pot belly” coal stove.

I got a job at 11 years old at a little community store, before and after school. This helped my mom to be able to “buy a little food” to feed us. Also, to keep “wood and coal” in the house to keep us from freezing. Holes were in the floor and the wind was very fierce! (COLD). We did not have adequate coats, shoes or apparel. Most of what we had, someone gave to us. I learned to be very grateful and NOT materialistic! *I received the Real Holy Ghost at (5) years old.*

At 14 years old, “Thank God for my cousin Nita. Her husband was working at Mr. D’s and through her, he got me a job working there,

to try to help my mother. Times were extremely hard! And, my poor mother was doing all that she could in the situation she was in. She suffered! And, we did too. But, I relied on my “JESUS”! He and my mother were all that I had.

I was determined to get out of that house and “help” to take care of my mother and my siblings, so I married early. (I was the oldest girl). In the beginning of my marriage, I trained as a private detective for the Pell City Police Force. I was good too! (smile). Just kidding! God was “good” through me! See, when I got married, I thought that my life was going to be a “Crystal Stair”. However, I was wrong! I had only changed addresses. Quickly, I recused myself from that marriage. Left to raise (3) beautiful children on my own, it was NOT easy!

Being a young single mother, I had all kinds of “demonic” and “sensual” propositions from perverted men, (old and young), that thought I needed them to take care of me and my kids! Thank God for his WISDOM and being able to see through the devil’s lies!! All excuses are cut down!

I am a witness that God will KEEP YOU if you want to be kept! Through it all, God kept me saved! David said, “I once was young but now I am OLD but I have NEVER seen the righteous forsaken or his seed (kids) begging for bread”! And we have never had to. HALLELUJAH!!! (Psalms 37:25).

The devil was a liar back then and he still is a LIE today! God took “good” care of us! But, it was ONLY the LOVE and GRACE OF

MY GOD AND MY LOVE FOR HIM that I endured. I can't take any credit for God's strength and perseverance! You really want help? Earnestly, ask God for it!

Since 1974, I have had to bury loved ones that were "DEAR" to my heart! First, I buried my "oldest" brother Charles! He was 22 years old and I loved him more than I loved myself. He was murdered on the steps of the college he attended, by "SO CALLED FRIENDS". That same night, my mother and I were in the Cooper Green Housing Projects in a street revival lifting up the name of JESUS! Miraculously, God moved!!!

Afterwards, I had to painfully watch his little son die. Subsequently, my own precious 16 year old son (BONKEY), was shot and killed in a drive-by shooting after a Shades Valley Football Game. They had just become #1 in the state and were headed for the playoffs. What took nine months to bring him into this world, took only 20 seconds for 4 young juveniles to take him out of the world. (A BULLET SHOT INTO THE CROWD, ENTERED HIS HEART). They did not even know him. But, Men of God, I never stopped lifting up the name of Jesus. (one of those young men is my "God given" son, today)! God gave me love for him as though he was my own biological son.

I became the founder and president of MOTHERS AGAINST VIOLENCE! Traveling the world over, after "losing" only ONE son, God has and continues to give me THOUSANDS OF SONS, FOR THE KINGDOM OF MY GOD!!!!

Successively, one of my sisters, (a twin) was MURDERED with a rusty butchers knife by her ex-husband in front of her children! She left behind four children and one granddaughter. Yet, I chose to continue on with the Lord my God and forgive my ex-brother in law! (FOR REAL)!

Then, My darling mother fell dead. (Pastor Gloria Dean Young). Truly, I had always thought that I could NEVER go on without her! OH, BUT GOD! The very same night that I sent her body to the funeral home, I went straight to Church and PREACHED JESUS CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED, BURIED and RESSURECTED! Hallelujah! And, God moved AGAIN! I have never walked because God carries me!

Brothers, as if that was not enough, 29 days later, my BELOVED cousin “Kenny Ray” was found murdered! Still, I had to “suck it up” and GIVE MY GOD THE GLORY!

It was not long that my deceased sister’s TWIN BROTHER died. Again, immediately after the funeral, I came home to an entire HOUSE FULL OF PEOPLE. God anointed me to Preach and Pray for people until after midnight! God healed and delivered many that night! These are things that would make most folks “freak out”. Thank God, I’m yet holding on.

A shock to my “system” occurred, (two years ago). I received a phone call one night and was told that my baby brother Boukey had just been killed in a motorcycle accident. I had raised these babies as my own.

However, painfully devastated, I had to stand up at his funeral and “SPEAK WHAT GOD GAVE ME TO SAY”. As always, I was come against by many for telling the TRUTH! It is better to OBEY God than man! Just before his death, we had been to a “FAMILY REUNION” together. I stood and called sin, SIN. The bible tells us that we shall know the TRUTH AND THE TRUTH WILL MAKE US FREE!

Some got upset and offended because it was TOUCHING THEIR SIN! They said, “It was NOT what she said, but a family reunion was just NOT the proper place or the appropriate time for it”! At my dear Brother’s funeral, I had to lovingly look into some of those same “saddened” faces and ask, “IS NOW THE PROPER PLACE AND TIME”?

As most of you know, last month was my most recent heart breaking, catastrophic and tragic loss. There are ABSOLUTELY NO WORDS TO EXPRESS MY DEVASTATION OR “LOVE” for MY BROTHER! My “Boomie”. How do you say, “It is well at a time like this”? ASK the Shunammite woman in 2Kings 4:23 and 26. With a dead child, she told her husband, “It shall be well” and to everyone else, “It is well”!! And, you know what Men? IT IS!

Listen Brothers, even though my name was on the program, I still had decided NOT to speak! (Just like Jeremiah did). But, I wanted to OBEY God. And, when the time came, it was like fire, shut up in my Bones! If there was EVER A TIME FOR THIS “FLESH” TO FAINT, SURELY IT WOULD HAVE BEEN

***THEN! BUT, I OBTAINED HELP FROM MY LORD!
HALLELUJAH! (ACTS 26:22).***

AND, GET THIS! I was scheduled to minister at St. Clair that very SAME night that I buried him. It was ONLY God who took me there, and used me tremendously! Listen, I am a living witness that you will reap if you “FAINT NOT”! (Galatians 6:9).

You see, ROMANS 8:18 says- “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us”. Then, Paul continues to ask in verses 35-39, “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁶ As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is just a small portion of my testimony! I know that I am only “living”, with a sound mind, by the GRACE Of MY GOD! He just does not want us to “freak out” and “give up” every time something happens that seems to be devastating to our plans! I could write a book for you about disappointments but I’d rather tell you about

My God, (whom I serve) who has brought me out of every one of them, VICTORIOUSLY!!! Praise steals and stills the enemy! Satan is ALREADY a DEFEATED FOE! And, he knows it! I DO TOO!

Remember King David when He got the news of his son (Absalom's) death! He loved this boy "SO MUCH"! HE COMPLETELY SHUT DOWN! He was SO distraught that he could not even see the VICTORY that God had JUST WROUGHT on his behalf! His nephew had to come, "rebuke" him and cause him to REFOCUS his attention BACK ON GOD and THE KINGDOM! In one of our services recently, God gave me 1Peter 3:7. Again, I am printing the entire CHAPTER for those of you to read, who are TOO LAZY to turn to it. But, I really want you to focus on verse 6!

3 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;² While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.³ Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;⁴ But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.⁵ For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: ^{*6} Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. ⁷ Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as

being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.⁸ *Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:*⁹ Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.¹⁰ For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:

¹¹ Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

¹² For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

¹³ And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?¹⁴ *But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;*¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

¹⁶ Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.¹⁷ For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.¹⁸ For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:¹⁹ By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;²⁰ Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.²¹ The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

²² Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Notice that verse six (6) said that you are daughters/sons (no male or female in the Gospel), of Sara if you do well and are NOT afraid with any amazement! This simply means for us to lay aside every sin that has been so easily besetting us, stop doing those things that we KNOW that God is NOT pleased with, live HOLY and treat others the way we want to be treated! JUST DO WELL AND DO NOT “FREAK OUT” every time some kind of TERROR OR FIREY TRIAL COME TO TRY YOU! Yes, it hurts! WE ARE DIRT! WE ARE FLESH AND BLOOD WITH EMOTIONS! But, we do not have a High Priest who cannot be touched by the “feelings” of our infirmities (Hebrews 4:15)! Jesus is OUR HIGH PRIEST and he knows and feels EXACTLY what we go through! Jesus had to learn obedience through the “things” that HE suffered (Hebrews 5:8)!

Also, look, at (Hebrews 10:19-25).

19Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

20By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

21And having an high priest over the house of God;

22Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

23Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) 24And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 25Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching! **It is**

APPROACHING, “F-A-S-T”! *Don’t let that day catch you unaware! (Luke 21:34-36.*

Please look at Hebrew 10:23- 25! THERE IS “NO” TIME TO WAVER, VACILLATE, HESITATE, BE INDICISIVE, OR DOUBLE MINDED! IT IS TIME TO GET RIGHT AND STAY RIGHT! BE STEADFAST AND UNMOVEABLE (1Corinthians 15:58). WE NEED EACH OTHER! Stop finding “fault” and trying to see the worst in each other! It is time to search yourself and change!

Hebrews 10:24- said to PROVOKE one another unto LOVE and to GOOD WORKS! Make sure that you have repented to your Brother or Sister. Then, keep LOVE in your heart even if you have to shun the “very” appearance of evil (1Thessalonians 5:15).

Sometimes, you have to Love people from a distance if it is going to keep you out of Trouble and save your SOUL! But, still you should ALLOW NOTHING TO keep you from Praying for them and when you SEE one another, “STILL SHOW LOVE TO THEM (FOR REAL)”! You must let NOTHING STOP you from provoking them to Love and GOOD WORKS! The “graveyard” is full of human treasure! And so is HELL! God holds us accountable for “winning souls” for the “Kingdom”! Satan is ALWAYS on his job! We must get busy! NOW! Don’t let NOBODY’S “Blood” be on your hands! Live it!

Hey, y’all! To provoke is to tell the TRUTH... Preach it... regardless of what they think or say about you! DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE WORD PROVOKE MEANS? It means to infuriate, to irritate, aggravate, incite, annoy, inflame, GOAD or NEEDLE your sister or brother! Don’t give up on them.... “CRY LOUD” and SPARE NOT! AS YOU SEE THE DAY APPROACHING! That day is approaching BROTHERS! (FASTER THAN YOU THINK)! EVERY BODY THINKS THIS VERSE IS ONLY TALKING ABOUT “THE RAPTURE OR THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT”.

You had better LOOK AROUND YOU! Are you looking at the NEWS? Nobody wants to see where this World is headed! “ONE WORLD ORDER”! One world Global ECONOMY! One world

GOVERNMENT! A “RFID” microchip powered by a lithium battery inserted into your Right Hand or your forehead (just below your hairline. Can you say? THE BEAST? THE “ANTI-CHRIST”!? 666?

(Revelation 13:11-18)

¹¹ And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

***¹² And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.**

¹³ And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

¹⁴ And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

¹⁵ And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

***¹⁶ And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:**

¹⁷ And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six. (666).

Listen, well over 2 ½ Million people have already received this chip! Revelation 16:2 says, “Ugly and painful (grievous) sores” broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast”... (in their right hand or forehead). Why? Because this lithium battery is powered by body heat and if it gets too hot it will EXPLODE in

your body! Some when some people realize that they did the wrong thing by taking it, they will try to cut it out and it will blow up! It is poisonous! Yes, it is truly time to forget petty things of the flesh and focus on God!

Who cares about how you feel about what someone has done or said to you? Or about you? God said NOT to forsake to assemble yourself together (to worship HIM). Listen, where there is unity, there is strength! Look around you.... The DAY IS FAST APPROACHING! Don't you allow the devil to deceive you and don't YOU deceive yourself! IT IS NOT ABOUT YOU! IT IS ALL ABOUT THE "KINGDOM"!!!!!!

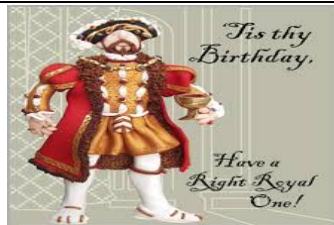
SURE, you want to get out of prison, who would not? But, if you can ONLY serve God based on whether you get out of prison or not, THAT IS NOT TRUE SERVICE!! And that kind of salvation will NOT last when you come out of those front gates.

HEY! For all of you that have been set off by the Parole Board, got upset and decided to "hang your harps up on the willows", REPENT! How can you sing ZION songs in a strange land? EASY! GO GET THOSE HARPS AND FORGET PEOPLE! As a matter of fact, FORGET YOURSELF! Focus on God! How dare you sing, shout, praise, and preach ONLY when things seem to be going your way!

If you cannot live HOLY and Love each other in there, you will not be able to live Holy or LOVE ONE ANOTHER OUT HERE!!!!!! GO GET THOSE HARPS!!!!!! Tambourines!!!! Guitars!!! Shouting SHOES!!! Keyboards!!!! Drums!!!! And, START TO PRAISE GOD LIKE YOU HAVE GONE OUT OF YOUR MIND, THEN WATCH GOD MOVE FOR YOU!

Seek first the “KINGDOM” of God and HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS and EVERYTHING ELSE WILL BE ADDED UNTO YOU (Matthew 6:33)! That includes your freedom! God is NOT a man that he should LIE! It is not about you getting out of prison PHYSICALLY! Get out SPIRITUALLY first! And, STAY OUT! EVEN WHEN YOU GET WHAT YOU CONSIDER TO BE “BAD NEWS”! Remember what Job’s friends told him? You have helped to uplift and encourage and admonish others, but NOW it has hit you and LOOK AT YOU! They rebuked him good!

It has almost been another “whole” year and 2014 is almost “GONE”. TIME IS FLYING! God said that except he shorten the TIME, NO FLESH WOULD BE SAVED (Mark 13:20 and Matthew 24:22)! I was not made for HELL and Hell was not made for me! I intend to be saved! How about you? PRAISE GOD!



AND, TO ALL OF OUR BLESSED BROTHERS BORN IN “OCTOBER” HAVE A “ROYAL” AND...HAPPY

“BIRTHDAY”!!!! We love you!!!!!!!!!!

HOUSE OF PRAISE CHURCH- P.O. BOX 660655

VESTAVIA, AL. 35266

E-mail: theblessedones@bellsouth.net

Web-site: www.houseofpraiseministry.org