

PURSUIT



Open Heavens 2015

By: Pastor Vern Peltz



© 2014 Pastor Vern Peltz, Word of Life Ministries. Reproduction of this material is granted only for non-commercial purposes provided the attribution to Pastor Vern Peltz and Word of Life Ministries is maintained in any reproduction.

Any modification of the material is strictly prohibited. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License.

**Word of Life Ministries
3640 County Rd 6 NW
Stanchfield, MN 55080**

Index

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Pursuit (Introduction)..... | Page 4 |
| What is Pursuit, & is it Scriptural? (Ch. 1)..... | Page 13 |
| Spirit of Anti-Christ (Ch. 2)..... | Page 34 |
| Un-Godly Pursuits (Ch. 3)..... | Page 45 |
| Godly Pursuits (Ch. 4)..... | Page 63 |
| Pursuing What God Pursues (Ch. 5)..... | Page 74 |
| What God Has Been Pursuing in Word of Life (Ch. 6)..... | Page 89 |
| '2004'..... | Page 92 |
| '2005'..... | Page 92 |
| '2006'..... | Page 99 |
| '2007'..... | Page 104 |
| '2008'..... | Page 112 |
| '2009'..... | Page 116 |
| '2010'..... | Page 126 |
| '2011'..... | Page 136 |
| '2012'..... | Page 140 |
| '2013'..... | Page 146 |
| '2014'..... | Page 152 |
| God's Current Pursuits in Word of Life (Ch. 7)..... | Page 155 |
| God's Gifts to Mankind (Ch. 8)..... | Page 162 |
| Conclusion (Ch. 9)..... | Page 169 |

Pursuit

(Introduction)

Introduction:

The purpose of this booklet is to draw attention to something that is happening all around us, but I believe for the most part the church in America is not recognizing. The “Prince of this World”, or as it is referred to in Ephesians 2:2 - “The ways of this world and of the Ruler of the Kingdom of the Air” (NIV) is having a direct influence on the average christian and we don’t even realize it. This influence is endeavoring to make its way into every believer’s life. Once it has access to us, it now can influence our families, our churches, every level of society, and will direct the course of the nations and the world.

This influence is a Last-Days phenomenon. The further we move into the time of the last days, the more intense it will become. It literally has the potential to devastate and neuter the church of Jesus Christ from flowing in the power of God, and ultimately it will cause many people to lose their salvation.

Matthew 25 - Increase of iniquity.

II Thessalonians 2 - Increase in lawlessness and spiritual blindness.

The dangerous part is that it is not a blatant, outright attack against the believer. It is a subtle, slow moving, ever-present evil that works on us every minute of every day. It’s objective is to damage and endeavor to end our relationship with God. IT’S OBJECTIVE IS TO DAMAGE AND ULTIMATELY END OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. (CAUSE US TO LOSE OUR SALVATION)

It will do this by (1) distracting us with simply ‘Living Life’, (2) thus putting us to sleep spiritually. It is working on us to condition us, or desensitize us so that we accept as ‘normal’ - perspectives and beliefs that are not of God. It is an ever-present spiritual pressure that is re-shaping the world we live in. It is continually moving our culture and the environment we live in, to be Anti-the Messiah (Jesus / Christianity) and His Anointing. (The Holy Spirit and his work among us)

What is the it we’re talking about? It is the ‘Spirit of Anti-Christ’. It is the constant spiritual pressure (Eph. 6:12) that surrounds us - trying to form and create us into something.

Here is how it starts:

It is slowly moving people (all people - including christians) away from PURSUING THE TRUE GOD AND WHAT HE WANTS > FIRST, to PURSUING WHAT WE WANT > FIRST.

Move us:

From being GOD FOCUSED in life, to being SELF FOCUSED in life.

To move us:

FROM LOVING GOD WITH ALL OUR HEART, SOUL, MIND, AND STRENGTH, to LOVING OURSELVES a little MORE, AND a little MORE AND a little MORE - until we have become MORE SELF FOCUSED (SELFISH) THAN GOD-FOCUSED. (LOVE for and OBEDIENT to God)

This isn't a Quick, Obvious attack on believers and the world. It is a slow, methodical, movement THAT IS SUPPOSE TO GO UN-RECOGNIZED.

It begins small, and then moves toward the Ultimate Goal:

- a. Innocently. A slow re-arranging of priorities and schedules (for whatever reason) away from God and what he wants as a nation, community, church, family, person.**

As believer's, it slowly moves us away from what he's telling us by his Spirit - we're to be doing.

- b. As believers, it encourages making choices without the leading of the Spirit. Using Wisdom of course - just not God's Wisdom. We say it's God's Wisdom, but unless we have heard from him - it's actually our wisdom.**

(James 3:13-18)

As unbeliever's, God's opinion simply isn't considered. Any moral basis or scripture connected to God isn't considered.. Decisions are made on a different basis. Again, it will be credited to wisdom and tolerance.

- c. As unbelievers, it may just seem wiser to not become too religious about life.**

As believers, We may have the thoughts: God gave us a mind to think and make choices. We don't have to hear from the Spirit or follow scripture about everything. That makes sense, doesn't it?

- d. Our reasoning, intellect, desires, and pride now become big players in our life.**
- e. Things that are not of God, but of the Devil's Kingdom begin creeping their way into our lives. (Remember: it all begins very innocently) It doesn't have to be out-right sin - but it will likely re-shuffle our focus in life, and the things we make a priority to spend our time on. (Very Innocently)**
- f. As that 'Iniquity' (Bend toward evil in our lives) continues to grow in us, our Love and need for God grows less and less. (Matthew 24:12)**
- g. Disobedience to the ways and desires of God begins to steadily increase. Of course, if it grows too much - we'll knock it back, because we're christians. We take on the perspective of sin management, rather than sin elimination. After all, we don't want to get too different from this world. How would we reach them? (Where in reality, we probably haven't gotten anyone saved in years, if ever.)**
- h. As a result, our relationship with God begins to suffer. Intimacy isn't increasing. His voice isn't growing stronger. We aren't increasingly being moved by what moves him. Our concern for the lost in this world is not increasing. The amount of time we dedicate to Eternal Fruit isn't increasing.**
- i. The truth be known, these things will begin growing less and less of a priority in our lives.**

STATUS QUO HAS ENTERED OUR LIFE.

AND WE'RE GOOD WITH THAT.

- j. Now we're on a down-hill slide, toward the bigger goals of the Devil. (Remember: he's the one behind this whole thing)**
- k. The first Big Goal: Strip christianity of it's power and influence. Which really means: Strip you of your spiritual power and influence.**
- l. Cause people to think they don't need Jesus to be ready for eternity.**
- m. Plant the belief that there are other ways to heaven. Jesus isn't the only way.**

- n. **Promote the common acceptance of Pantheism and Universalism.**
 - > **Pantheism - there are many God's and ultimately they are the same God.**
 - > **Universalism - Everyone is serving God in their own way, therefore everyone is already saved.**

It's more important to be a good person and member of society than a radical Christian or Jew who thinks their way of salvation is the only way.

- o. **The last great deception will be when the Anti-Christ is promoted as being the embodiment of all Gods. He is going to be touted as either the supreme representative of all the deities mankind views as God; or, He is God.**

- p. **The biggest goal:**

ELIMINATE JESUS - AS THE ONLY MESSIAH AND SAVIOR - FROM THE LIVES AND THINKING OF THE HUMAN RACE.

+++++ FOR BELIEVER'S AND NON-BELIEVER'S > IT ALL STARTS VERY SIMPLY:

TURN PEOPLE FROM BEING GOD-CENTERED.
TO BEING SELF-CENTERED. SELFISH.

Remember: This is not going to be presented quickly. This is not a blatant attack on Jesus and Christianity. It's simply a moving of the marker, or standard of what the Word and the Spirit say are Godliness - so that one step at a time, we become a people and society that are more and more ungodly. It's a repeat of the process we find in Romans 1. This works so well for a number of reasons:

- (1) **It causes confusion because the clear, definitive boundaries no longer exist.**
 - > **Right and Wrong becomes a personal choice and personal preference issue.**
- (2) **I believe it's because of our fallen nature, we tend to measure against whether something is wrong and how wrong it really is. We make statements like:**
 - **I don't think it's that bad.**
 - **It's not like I'm (here we say something people may consider as extremely bad).**
 - **Other people do it, and they're Christians.**
 - **Are you saying that everyone who (fill in the blank) is not going to heaven?**

- We're not saved by our works, anyway.
- You say this is wrong, what about (now we point out something that is considered to be sin that others are doing). So, unless the other people are corrected for their sin, no one should say anything about ours. (It's like 2 wrongs somehow make a right)

(3) Our standard of measurement is suppose to be Godliness, Righteousness, and the Word - NOT how wrong something is.

We're suppose to be trying to please God more - not looking for what we can get away with - without making him angry.

The basis we make decisions upon isn't suppose to be some sliding scale of how wrong / bad something REALLY is. Our goal should be to live as righteously as possible, with not even a hint of sin being a part of our life. But too often it becomes an evaluation of how close to the sin line we can live and still be righteous.

We should be making statements like:

- This is what the Word says.
- I've studied this issue - IN DEPTH - and this is what the Hebrew and Greek mean when it says.....
- These are the Rhema Words I got on this.
- The Holy Spirit said this would please and glorify God because.....
- This is the right thing to do to influence and win the people to Jesus whom I'm witnessing to. (They're watching me)
- I don't want to take the chance of damaging the Loving, Close Relationship I have with God.

That's why when something is brought up that may be questionable or even wrong, I hear christians making excuses for their sin - rather than owning it and confessing it. We will make excuses for what we know deep down is wrong / sin. Rather than repent and make the corrections to stop it in our life. If we persist in this - after a while, we no longer feel the conviction of the Spirit. Just like in II Thessalonians 2:10-12 - we have been deceived by the evil we allowed to remain in our lives. The ultimate result is condemnation. (Loss of salvation) That's how deceit progresses and works its way through our lives. We literally submit to and embrace the deceit by not clinging firmly to the truth and what the Spirit is saying.

This is why we are told over and over in scripture to Watch, Pray, and Stay Alert. THIS EVER PRESENT SPIRITUAL ATMOSPHERE HAS A 'DUMBING DOWN' AFFECT ON THE BELIEVER. WE LITERALLY BECOME BLIND AND DUMB TO WHAT IS GOING ON AROUND US, AND WHAT IS HAPPENING IN US SPIRITUALLY. WE DON'T SEE IT - REALIZE IT - NOR UNDERSTAND IT.

This concept of not realizing what is happening to us or in us is shown numerous times in scripture. Here are a few places you can see it:

Matthew 25:1-13 > The 10 Virgins.

Luke 21:34-36 > The ways of dealing with life and pressure of the end times.

II Thessalonians 2:9-12 > Not clinging to the truth, but delighting in wickedness.

Matt 24:9-14 > Characteristics of a deceived society.

The purpose is to hinder what God is trying to do on this earth. The more it can be hindered - the better. Ultimately, to destroy the gospel and cause people to lose eternal life.

The reason I titled this book: 'Pursuit', is because for me it was the best word to describe what the Holy Spirit showed me. Mankind was created to Pursue. All of us are in Pursuit on a continual basis. It's built into our DNA. We are like God, and GOD IS A PURSUER. Since that's the way God created us, Satan can't change that. So the only thing he can do is what he always tries to do - pervert it. Therein lies the danger. If we don't recognize the perversion, we will get trapped in it. Resulting in Pursuits that are not Godly, (no matter how innocent - or neutral - they may seem) and will ultimately damage us spiritually.

The plan that Satan has is simple. It is to use what has already been built into us which is: 'OUR DESIRE TO PURSUE'. The goal is to twist it. Since he knows mankind will always pursue, his goal is to pervert that pursuit. He begins by casting doubt on and corrupting the truth. With the Ultimate End Result being - humanity turning their back on God and losing Eternal Life.

How is he going to accomplish that? One word sums it up: SELFISHNESS!!!

Causing Humanity (including believers) to be more focused on what we want that what God wants.

IT'S ALL ABOUT SELF. SELFISHNESS.

THERE IT IS!!! THERE IS THE SCHEME!!!

Seeing that scheme, and watching it work - is what has become a great concern of mine. As a pastor, one of my jobs is to sound the alarm to what I see happening around me.

This thing is infiltrating the lives of believers and the church with such efficiency that we are not even seeing or paying attention to the scriptural warnings about it. We are not recognizing the evil that is invading this world, society, the church, and our lives. We're being lulled to sleep, and the consequences are going to be devastating.

We need to become aware of what's happening. We must realize, we are watching a literal SPIRITUAL FORCE / ANOINTING (I John 2, 4 - 'Spirit [Breath] of Anti [Against] Christ [Messiah, Anointed One and His Anointing']) at work among us.

The closer we get to the Revelation of Jesus Christ, the focus and intensity of this 'scheme' will be elevated to extreme heights in an effort to destroy Christianity. (the 'Salvation of our Lineage')

I AM COMPELLED TO EXPOSE IT!!!

(2 Co 2:11 (NIV))

[11] in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

(Ep 6:11-13 (NIV))

[11] Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. [12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. [13] Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

(Lk 12:35-40 (NIV))

[35] "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, [36] like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. [37] It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. [38] It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. [39] But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. [40] You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

(1 Pe 4:7 (AMP))

[7] But the end and culmination of all things has now come near; keep sound minded and self-restrained and alert therefore for [the practice of] prayer.

Since we know this is Satan's scheme, a question we must deal with is:

What standard of measurement have you established for the 'Pursuits' in your life?

How do we know if they are Godly or Ungodly?

Who really is our First Love? God or Us.

Remember, Godliness is not always measured by sin or righteousness. Things can begin very innocently, difficult to classify as sin or righteousness, and eventually turn our hearts toward being more concerned about what we want than what God wants. Remember ".....wisdom is justified and vindicated by what she does (her deeds) and by her children." (Mt 11:19 (AMP))

Are we aware of what is trying to be produced in us and our offspring / lineage?

Too often we mindlessly create a perception of something. We decide whether we want it a part of our lives, without ever hearing from the Holy Spirit. (I Corinthians 2:16) As a result it becomes a Pursuit of ours, (it's about us) not really knowing where it will ultimately lead us.

The overall purpose of this book, is to answer a few questions:

What is the top goal of Satan in our time?

What is the process he will use to deceive us?

What will the spiritual atmosphere and ultimately society be like in the last days?

Is it getting on us? Are we starting to live in ways that we've been warned against?

What does scripture say Godly Pursuit is supposed to look like?

Are we living our lives in Godly or Un-godly Pursuit?

How does this apply to Word of Life now and in the future?

To gain some understanding of how God is looking at things, we need to always reduce it to it's core. When it comes to humans and this earth, most everything can be reduced to an on-going war between God and the Devil.

We are caught in the middle. God wants nothing more than to give Eternal Life to every human being. Satan wants nothing more than to stop or prevent that from happening. So we always have to look at what both sides are ultimately pursuing. Because what they are pursuing, one side or the other, will eventually become our Pursuits.

We will begin by establishing what we are talking about when we say 'Pursuit'. Let's define it and see if it is scriptural.

Chapter 1

What is Pursuit?

(Is Pursuit Scriptural?)

I made the statement at the beginning of this booklet that mankind was created to Pursue. It's designed into us by God.

In this chapter we're going to look at the scripture and see if the concept of Pursuing or Pursuit is actually a Godly or scriptural one.

What are we talking about when we say Godly pursuit? Let's take a look at the definitions of Pursuit and Pursue.

PURSUIT (Webster)

noun

- 1: the act of pursuing
- 2: an activity that one engages in as a vocation, profession, or a vocation.
- 3: occupation.

PURSUIT [pər 'soot] (New Oxford American Dictionary)

noun

- 1: the action of following or pursuing someone or something.
- 2: [with modifier] (often pursuits) an activity of a specified kind, especially a recreational or athletic one: a whole range of leisure pursuits.
- 3: the pursuit of profit: striving toward, quest after/for, search for; aim, goal, objective, dream.
- 4: a worthwhile pursuit: activity, hobby, pastime, diversion, recreation, relaxation, divertissement, amusement; occupation, trade, vocation, business, work, job, employment.

PURSUE (Webster)

transitive verb

- 1: to follow in order to overtake, capture, kill, or defeat.
- 2: to find or employ measures to obtain or accomplish : seek <pursue a goal>
- 3: to proceed along <pursues a northern course>
- 4 a : to engage in <pursue a hobby>
b : to follow up or proceed with <pursue an argument>

PURSUE |pər'soo| (New Oxford American Dictionary)

verb

- 1: follow (someone or something) in order to catch or attack them.
- 2: seek to attain or accomplish (a goal), especially over a long period.
- 3: (of a person or way) continue or proceed along (a path or route).
- 4: engage in (an activity or course of action).
- 5: continue to investigate, explore, or discuss (a topic, idea, or argument).

+++++ In a layman's definition, To Pursue is to:

Go After something or someone.
 Put in effort to acquire or overtake.
 Focus on something or someone to.....
 To chase after it.
 To follow - to overtake.

The next question that should be asked: is the concept of Godly Pursuit even a scriptural one?

Let's look at what the Bible says.

1) Does God Pursue?

a. God pursuing Adam & Eve.

(Gen. 3:8-9 (NIV))

[8] Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. [9] But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

b. God pursuing a person to intercede / mediate.

(Eze. 22:30 (AMP))

[30] And I sought a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it, but I found none.

c. God pursues because he is Love. Genuine love will cause us to go after, chase, or pursue something or someone.

(Ps 6:4 (NIV))

[4] Turn, O LORD, and deliver me; save me because of your unfailing love. (cf. Ps. 31:16)

(Ps 23:6 (NIV))

[6] Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

(Ps 32:10 (NIV))

[10] Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.

(Ps 33:18-22 (NIV))

[18] But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, [19] to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. [20] We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. [21] In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. [22] May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

(Ps 36:5 (NIV))

[5] Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens....

(Ps 40:11 (NIV))

[11] Do not withhold your mercy from me, O LORD; may your love and your truth always protect me.

***** There are many more examples in Psalms of God Pursuing man because of his Love for them.**

(Isa 54:10 (NIV))

[10] Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

(Jn 3:16-17 (NIV))

[16] "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

(Jn 14:20-23 (NIV))

[20] On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. [21] Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.

[22] Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?”

[23] Jesus replied, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

(Jn 15:12-13 (NIV))

[12] My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. [13] Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

(Ro 5:6-8 (NIV))

[6] You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. [7] Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. [8] But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

(1Co 8:1 (NIV))

[1] Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that we all possess knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.

(1Co 13:4-8 (NIV)) - Love Pursues by it's response, and what it does and does not do.

[4] Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. [5] It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. [6] Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. [7] It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. [8] Love never fails.

****** Can you see the Pursuit of Love? This is the Pursuit of God, because God IS LOVE.**

(1Co 14:1 (NIV))

[1] Follow the way of love..... (Love has a way it goes. We're to follow it. So it Pursues, and we Pursue with it)

(2Co 5:14 (NIV))

[14] For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

(Ep 2:4-5 (NIV))

[4] But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

(Ep 5:1-2 (NIV))

[1] Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children [2] and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

(1Jn 4:9-11 (NIV))

[9] This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. [10] This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. [11] Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

(1Jn 4:18-19 (NIV))

[18] There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. [19] We love because he first loved us.

(Rev 3:19 (NIV))

[19] Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent.

By just examining this one aspect of God - his love for us, can you see how God is a God of Pursuit?

Where you find Love, you find Pursuit. One of the main characteristics of Love is Pursuit.

What we pursue will depend upon what we love.

2) Did Jesus Pursue while he was on the earth?

a. Sinners.

(Mt 4:17 (NIV))

[17] From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

(Lk 19:10 (NIV))

[10] For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”

b. Teaching Pursuit and instructing believers to Pursue.

If you read the gospels with the concept of Pursuit in mind, you will find it is a theme that runs through everything Jesus taught. He told us what was available to us, and then he told us to go after it. (That is Pursuit)

Here are some examples out of the Sermon on the Mount.

(Matthew 5-7 > Sermon on the Mount)

(Mt 5:19 (NIV))

[19] ... whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

(Mt 5:23-25 (NIV))

[23] “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, [24] leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. [25] “Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison.

Matthew 5:27-30 > Pursuing Holiness.

(Mt 5:43-48 (NIV))

[43] “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ [44] But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [45] that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. [46] If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax

collectors doing that? [47] And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? [48] *Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

(Mt 6:1-4 (NIV))

[1] *“Be careful not to do your ‘acts of righteousness’ before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.*

[2] *“So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.* [3] *But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,* [4] *so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.*

Matthew 6:5-13 > Pursuing a Reward from God in Prayer. Praying Correctly.

(Mt 6:14-15 (NIV))

[14] *For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.*

[15] *But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*

(Mt 6:16-18 (NIV))

[16] *“When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.* [17] *But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,* [18] *so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.*

Matthew 6:19-24 > Pursue the Correct way of setting our Heart and viewing Money.

(Mt 6:33-34 (NIV))

[33] *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

[34] *Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

Matthew 7:1-6 > Pursue correct Judgment.

(Mt 7:7-12 (NIV))

[7] “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. [8] For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. [9] “Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? [10] Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? [11] If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! [12] So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.”

(Mt 7:13-14 (NIV))

[13] “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. [14] But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

(Mt 7:21-24 (NIV))

[21] “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. [22] Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ [23] Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’ [24] “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Here are some other examples of Jesus teaching on Pursuit:

(Mt 9:14-15 (NIV))

[14] Then John's disciples came and asked him, “How is it that we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?” [15] Jesus answered, “How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast.”

(Mt 9:37-38 (NIV))

[37] Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. [38] Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

(Mt 10:5-8 (NIV))

[5] These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. [6] Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. [7] As you go, preach this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven is near.’ [8] Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”

(Mt 11:28-30 (NIV))

[28] “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. [29] Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30] For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

(Mt 18:1-4 (NIV))

[1] At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” [2] He called a little child and had him stand among them. [3] And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. [4] Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

(Mt 18:15-17 (NIV))

[15] “If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. [16] But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ [17] If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

(Mt 19:28-30 (NIV))

[28] Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. [29] And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. [30] But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

(Mt 24:4 (NIV))

[4] Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you.

(Mt 24:42 (NIV))

[42] “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

(Mt 25:13 (NIV))

[13] “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

(Mt 25:34-40 (NIV))

[34] “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. [35] For I was

hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, [36] I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ [37] “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? [38] When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? [39] When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ [40] “The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’

(Mt 28:18-20 (NIV))

[18] Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

- c. The reason Jesus walked on the water was because he was going out to (Pursuing) the disciples.

(Mt 14:22-25 (NIV))

[22] Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. [23] After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, [24] but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. [25] During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

- d. Jesus Pursuing the Cross and setting the standard for our pursuit of his will.

(Mt 16:21-28 (NIV))

[21] From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. [22] Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” [23] Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.” [24] Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. [25] For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. [26] What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? [27] For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has

done. [28] *I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.*”

e. Jesus Pursuing Holiness in the Temple.

(Mt 21:12-13 (NIV))

[12] Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. [13] *“It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it a ‘den of robbers.’”*

f. Jesus Pursuing the Father’s Will.

(Mt 26:39-42 (NIV))

[39] Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, *“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”* [40] *Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter.* [41] *“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.”*

[42] He went away a second time and prayed, *“My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”*

g. Jesus Pursued, because of Love.

(1Jn 3:16-18 (NIV))

[16] This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. *And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.* [17] *If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?* [18] *Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.*

3. Are we as Believer's told to Pursue?

- a. If you read the scriptures listed under #2 - above, you'll see numerous times where Jesus told us to Pursue. I will repeat only a few of them again.

One of the most obvious statements concerning Pursuit is made by Paul.

(Phl 3:12-21 (NIV))

[12] Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. [13] Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. [14] I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

[15] All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. [16] Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

[17] Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. [18] For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. [19] Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. [20] But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, [21] who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Paul is telling us a few things here:

- > v. 12 - He is talking about our pursuit, and he is talking about Jesus pursuing us.
- > v. 13 - He is describing pursuit as forgetting and straining for what is ahead.
- > v. 14 - Here pursuit is being described as pressing on.
- > v. 15 - If we are mature we need to pursue this perspective.
- > v. 17 - This is the example Paul is setting and we need to take note & follow it.
- > v. 18 - Now he is going to describe what selfish pursuit looks like.
- > v. 19 - The description of selfish pursuit.

- b. Seek First his Kingdom and Righteousness.

(Mt 6:25-34 (NIV))

[25] "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? [26] Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your

heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? [27] Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

[28] "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. [29] Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. [30] If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? [31] So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' [32] For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. [33] But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. [34] Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

> Here we are seeing Jesus contrasting the two kingdoms and our pursuit of them.

> you have the earthly kingdom where the people are pursuing their physical needs by worrying about or setting their mind on the physical realm.

> but then you also have the way that Jesus said it is supposed to be done. He said pursue God's kingdom and his righteousness and God will take care of the physical realm.

c. Where we set our mind is a huge realm of Pursuit. The heart and the mind is the field where thoughts are sown and eventually produce a harvest. The things we allow our mind to dwell on will turn into the things we Pursue.

That's why we find so much information in the Bible concerning the heart of the person which is really the deepest part of the soul and spirit. We know the Spirit can think, reason, and have emotions. We also know the soul is defined as the mind, will, emotions, reasoning, intellect, etc. So let's look at a few scriptures that deal with a heart, the mind, and the things that we do that come out of them.

(Col 3:1-18 (NIV))

[1] Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. [2] Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. [3] For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. [4] When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

[5] Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. [6] Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. [7] You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. [8] But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. [9] Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices [10] and have put on the new self,

which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. [11] Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. [12] Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. [13] Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. [14] And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. [15] Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. [16] Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. [17] And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

(Mt 15:16-20 (NIV))

[16] "Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them. [17] "Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body?" [18] But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean.' [19] For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. [20] These are what make a man 'unclean'; but eating with unwashed hands does not make him 'unclean.'"

(Pr 4:20-27 (NIV))

[20] My son, pay attention to what I say; listen closely to my words. [21] Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; [22] for they are life to those who find them and health to a man's whole body. [23] Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. [24] Put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk far from your lips. [25] Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you. [26] Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. [27] Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.

(Eph 4:17-5:21 (NIV))

[17] So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. [18] They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. [19] Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more. [20] You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. [21] Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. [22] You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; [23] to be made new in the attitude of your minds; [24] and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

[25] Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. [26] “In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, [27] and do not give the devil a foothold. [28] He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

[29] Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. [30] And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. [31] Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. [32] Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

[1] Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children [2] and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

[3] But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. [4] Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. [5] For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. [6] Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. [7] Therefore do not be partners with them. [8] For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light [9] (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) [10] and find out what pleases the Lord. [11] Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. [12] For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. [13] But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, [14] for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said:

“Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

[15] Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, [16] making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. [17] Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. [18] Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. [19] Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, [20] always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. [21] Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

(Ro 8:1-17 (NIV))

[1] Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, [2] because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. [3] For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, [4] in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

[5] Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. [6]

The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; [7] the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. [8] Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

[9] You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. [10] But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. [11] And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

[12] Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. [13] For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, [14] because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. [15] For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” [16] The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. [17] Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

(1Ti 6:11 (NIV))

[11] But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

d. To be in strong Faith is a Pursuit.

(Jn 6:28-29 (NIV))

[28] Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”

[29] Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”

(Jas 2:14-26 (NIV))

[14] What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? [15] Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. [16] If one of you says to him, “Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? [17] In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

[18] But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.”

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. [19] You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

[20] You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? [21] Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?

[22] You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by

what he did. [23] And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God's friend. [24] You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.

[25] In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? [26] As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

(1Th 1:3 (NIV))

[3] We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Ep 2:8-10 (NIV))

[8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- e. Of the seven churches in the book of Revelation, two of them could be considered remnant churches. Jesus did not correct them on anything, nor did he threaten to remove their candlestick. He simply commended them for what they were doing and told them to keep it up.

The other five churches needed to correct some things. Even though he commends them on some of the things they are Pursuing, they need to make some changes. There are some things they have stopped Pursuing and they need to begin to Pursue them again. If they did not, he would come and remove their candlestick. (which means they would no longer be considered a church or have the life of God in them)

Here we will see Jesus, who is the Lord of the church, telling them to Pursue some things. And he says that the Holy Spirit is in agreement with this because his last statement to all the churches is listen to what the Spirit has to say.

As you read these, please notice: over and over Jesus points out what they are going after and Pursuing. He is commending them for what they are Pursuing. He also states what they are not Pursuing, but need to. (I underlined both)
Notice: Jesus is watching the Pursuit of these people.

(Rev 2:1-3:22 (NIV))

[1] “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: [2] I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. [3] You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

[4] Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. [5] Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. [6] But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

[7] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

[8] “To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: (Remnant, or Bride Church)

These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. [9] I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. [10] Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.

[11] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.

[12] “To the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. [13] I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives. [14] Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. [15] Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. [16] Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

[17] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.

[18] “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. [19] I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

[20] Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. [21] I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. [22] So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. [23] I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds. [24] Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): [25] Only hold on to what you have until I come.

[26] To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations—

[27] ‘He will rule them with an iron scepter; he will dash them to pieces like pottery’—just as I have received authority from my Father. [28] I will also give him the morning star. [29] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

[1] “To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. [2] Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. [3] Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

[4] Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. [5] He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels. [6] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

[7] “To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: (Remnant, or Bride Church)

These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. [8] I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. [9] I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. [10] Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will

also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.

[11] I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. [12] Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name. [13] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

[14] "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. [15] I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! [16] So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. [17] You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. [18] I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

[19] Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. [20] Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

[21] To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. [22] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

- f. Go back to the concept of Love (p. 14-17) that we talked about earlier concerning God and his Pursuit of us. Genuine Love always manifests in some form of Pursuit.

(Jn 14:15 (NIV))

[15] "If you love me, you will obey what I command.

(Jn 15:9-17 (NIV))

[9] "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. [10] If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. [11] I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. [12] My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. [13] Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. [14] You are my friends if you do what I command. [15] I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. [16] You did not

choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. [17] This is my command: Love each other.

(1Jn 2:3-6 (NIV))

[3] We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. [4] The man who says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. [5] But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: [6] Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

(1Jn 3:16-18 (NIV))

[16] This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. [17] If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? [18] Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

(1Jn 5:3 (NIV))

[3] This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,

We could continue showing examples of Pursuit. The Scriptures literally laced with them. In fact, it's very difficult to read much scripture without being shown or told how to live this life and what to Pursue. So by now we should be able to see that Pursuit is a scriptural principle.

Now let's look at the ultimate goal that Satan is trying to accomplish in the in time world.

Chapter 2

‘Spirit of Anti-Christ’

Here is the problem every person faces. Satan’s attack is ultimately on the Gift of Eternal Life that God has offered to mankind. He will do everything he can to make sure we either never get it, or we lose it.

Add to that problem, the time or age we are living in. We are in the End Times. It’s in our era that wickedness / lawlessness takes a giant spike in intensity. Here are a couple of verses that point that out.

(Mt 24:12-13 (NIV))

[12] Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, [13] but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

(2Th 2:7-8 (NIV))

[7] For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. [8] And then the lawless one will be revealed....

There are numerous characteristics that go along with this spike in wickedness and lawlessness. We will look at them later in the chapter.

Let’s first look at the ultimate goal of evil for the time we and our offspring are living in.

The book of I John is one of the few books that directly deals with the power of Anti-Christ. This book also brings clarity to the ultimate goal of this evil of our time, and ultimately the man who will be the Anti-Christ.

How does John describe what is going to be happening in the time we live in?

In 1 John 4:3 he calls this evil the ‘Spirit of the Anti-Christ’. Directly translated from it’s original language it would read: the ‘Breath (Spirit) of the Anti-Anointing/Messiah (Christ)’.

What is John trying to tell us? I will enlarge on it in a bit, but in a nutshell he is saying two things:

- 1) The statement in itself is stating the ultimate purpose of this time will be to undermine, discredit, disprove, and convince that Jesus IS NOT the Christ.
- 2) That this Anti-Messiah, or Anti-Anointing influence will be in the spirit-realm. It surrounds us like 'breath or air'. That's why the Holy Spirit (via Paul) described it as "the ways of this world and of the Ruler of the Kingdom of the Air". (Eph. 2:1-3)

This thing is of Satan. It literally permeates the atmosphere that surrounds us. It emanates from the evil side of the spirit realm and will be continually trying to move people toward the belief that Jesus IS NOT the Christ, or the ONLY Christ.

To say it another way, John is telling us that the Anti-Christ Spirit will be promoting the concepts:

Jesus is not the way of salvation for the human race. And / or: Jesus is not the ONLY way of salvation for the human race.

I want you to notice some things about it. Let's take a deeper look at what John had to say about it in I John 2:18-27, and 4:1-6.

1 John 2:18-27 (NIV)

18 Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us. 20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. 21 I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth. 22 Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a person is the antichrist--denying the Father and the Son. 23 No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also. 24 As for you, see that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. 25 And this is what he promised us--eternal life. 26 I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray. 27 As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit--just as it has taught you, remain in him.

There are a number of things we should notice here:

- v. 18 - Even back in John's time, the process was underway. He was also part of the Last Times.

- v. 19 - A division was and still is taking place because of the 'Anti-Christ Spirit'. He describes them as either belonging to the church or not belonging. If they have left, it was an indication that they didn't really belong to or were a part of the church.

(At this point we're not sure what he means by that, but he will tell us)

- v. 20 - This has to do with an Anointing and the Truth.

- v. 21 - The reason for this book is because they know the truth. Therefore he can explain this to them. They know the truth, so they will recognize what he's about to say as truth. The truth cannot lie, so he can't be deceiving them.

- v. 22 - The real liar and deceiver is the person who denies Jesus is the Christ. (The Messiah. Messiah means the 'Only Way' or the 'Only One' who provides salvation)

If we deny Jesus as being the 'The Way', or the 'Only Way' of salvation, John says we are an Anti-Christ. (We are a person who is Anti the True or Holy Anointing.

(v. 20)

- v. 23 - We can't be serving the same God, if we're not serving the same Son of God.

(If we say Jesus is not the Messiah / Savior - we can't be serving the same God.

That is what is being proclaimed now. Muslims, Buddhists, Jews, Christians, etc. - we all serve the same God. He just manifested himself to different cultures by a different name.)

THIS IS THE ULTIMATE DECEPTION THE ANTI-CHRIST SPIRIT AND PERSON WILL TRY TO INSTILL.

- v. 24-25 - Be careful that you remain in the message that was given earlier about Jesus being the Son of God, and his Father. This keeps us in our salvation and will give to us what he promised: Eternal Life.

- v. 26 - There is a group of people who are saying it doesn't work this way. There are other ways of salvation besides Jesus.

- v. 27 - However, as for the true church of Jesus (true believers) we have received the true Anointing from him, and it is in us. We don't need anyone to teach us 'who' our salvation comes through. This Anointing we've received teaches us - It is Jesus.

This Anointing we received from Jesus is real. It will teach us about ALL things. Follow what it has taught us about the source of salvation (Jesus), and remain in that understanding. Because there is a 'counterfeit' anointing.

It's that Counterfeit Anointing (Anti-Christ Anointing) that is teaching people the wrong things and leading them astray. It is a lie. It is the reason people are leaving the church and going off to believe there are other ways of being saved. (This will become more prevalent as time goes on)

Because this is happening, we can't just believe everything that comes along. We must learn to test the spirits. That way we can identify the Anti-Christ Spirit.

1Jo 4:1-6 (NIV)

1 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. 4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. 5 They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. 6 We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

In context, this is not talking about demonic spirits that need to be cast out, etc. It is talking about the over-all Spirit of Anti-Christ.

- v. 1 - Just because a prophet is saying something, doesn't mean it's of God. Test what is being said. Because of this Anti-Christ Spirit and how it affects people, there are many people who have become False Prophets.**
- v. 2-3 - Take this verse in context of what he said in chapter 2. He was talking about the source of our salvation - the Messiah. Here he says the Spirit of God will say that Jesus came in the Flesh. Remember to connect that statement with chapter 2 and why he came to this world in the flesh. He came as our Messiah and Savior. Tie this back into the book of John, chapter 1 where it is talking about Jesus having come in the flesh. What does it say there as to why he came? To be the Light and Life of our salvation. He came to bring salvation.**

So John is still on the same theme. Salvation cannot come through anyone other than Jesus the Christ. (The Anointed One, the Messiah).

THIS IS GOING TO BE A HUGE ISSUE IN OUR FUTURE.

THIS WILL BE THE CULMINATING ISSUE BEFORE JESUS' RETURN.

The Anti-Christ Spirit is fighting against the Anointing and the Messiah, so anyone who has been influenced by it will deny that Jesus came in the flesh and became the only Savior of mankind. (Which Jesus himself professed > John 14:6) If this simple, but major point is not acknowledged, which I state again - 'Jesus is the only Messiah or Savior of the human being', if this point is not agreed to, then we can know that person is under the influence of the 'Breath of the Anti-Anointing / Christ'. In fact in chapter 2, John said this kind of person is an anti-christ.

This spirit was already beginning it's work in the world when John was alive.

- v. 4 - True believers have over-come this line of reasoning because of the anointing of Jesus that lives within us. (Again, refer to ch. 2)
- v. 5 - The Anti-Christ Spirit and the people under it's influence are from the world. This will be the view-point of the world, and the world will listen to them. (There will be agreement)
- v. 6 - When it comes to this issue of 'who' salvation comes through, John says the people who know God and his anointing (ch. 2) will listen to the ones proclaiming Jesus is the only way to heaven. That He is the only Messiah. This is how we recognize the Spirit of Truth. These people are not deceived or under the Counterfeit Anointing. (2:27) They are not under the delusion and influence of the Spirit of Anti-Christ.

But the people who don't listen to this or agree with it are not of God. They are of the counterfeit anointing (2:27), they are of the spirit of falsehood. They are of the Anti-Christ Spirit. (4:3) And this is how we recognize and test the Spirit of Anti-Christ. The Anti-Christ Spirit says that Jesus is not the only Messiah or way of salvation.

That is the influence that literally flows through and emanates from the 'air', or 'spirit' world around us. It is attacking the Anointing and the fact that Jesus is the only way of salvation.

So now we know the MAIN OBJECTIVE of what is happening in the evil side of the spirit world, which infiltrates the air around us and tries to get people to believe that way.

THE ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO UNDERMINE THE FACT THAT JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY OF SALVATION. HE IS THE ONLY MESSIAH. HE CARRIES THE TRUE ANOINTING.

But how will it operate in order to desensitize and deceive everyone in the world so we believe it? (Incl. Christians - Matthew 24:22-24) It's simple to see that you can't just have people make the jump from being solid believer's in Jesus to denying he is the 'Only Way', or 'A Way' at all. What will happen to slide people away from the truth and blind them into believing this Ultimate Lie.

The Bible has a lot to say about what this man called 'The Anti-Christ' will be like. It also has a lot to say about the 'Spirit of Anti-Christ' which will be the wave of lawlessness (Selfishness) that he rides into power.

I've listed many of the characteristics I could find on what the man will be like. If we can see what he will be like, it is easier to identify the 'spirit of the age' that will propel him into power. Because it's the 'Spirit of Anti-Christ' that John said has been at work and is at work now. It will continue to set the spiritual atmosphere and set the stage for this man to gain favor and ultimately the power to rule in the earth.

So here is a list of his characteristics. I've underlined the ones that stand out to me as things that we should pay particular attention to.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ANTI-CHRIST

Daniel chapter 7

He will be a man. (v. 8)

Very persuasive in speech. (v. 8)

Will rise to power from a 10 kingdom base. (v. 24)

Will have to subdue three kings to stay in power. (v. 24)

He will be a blasphemer of God. (v. 25)

He will try to change times and laws. (v. 25)

He will overcome the Christian for 3 ½ years. (v. 25)

Daniel chapter 8

He overcomes the Christian. (v. 10)

He makes himself to be God. (v. 11)

Takes away the Jewish sacrifices in the middle of the Tribulation. (v. 11)

He in some way damages the temple. (v. 11)

He will overcome the Christian/Jew and parts of their worship. (v. 12)

He will overcome truth and will practice/prosper against it. (v. 12)

He will be a fierce (strong, hardened) man. (v.23)

He will understand witchcraft, etc. (v. 23)

He will have tremendous power. (v. 24)

He will be empowered by Satan. (v.24)

He will be very successful in destruction especially with people in authority or those that serve God. (v. 24)

He will use trickery to prosper. (v. 25)

He will exalt himself. (v. 25)

Through peace, he will destroy. (v. 25)

He will try to overcome Christ. (v. 25)

Daniel 9:27

Will make a covenant with Israel (known as “the man of peace”)

Will break the covenant in the middle of the tribulation.

Will stop Israel’s sacrificing .

Make the temple desolate.

Until judgment comes.

II Thessalonians chapter 2

He will be a man of sin/lawlessness. (v. 3)

He will be doomed to destruction. (v. 3)

He will try to make himself to be God. (v. 4)

He will set himself up as God in the Jewish Temple. (v. 4)

He will try to receive any and all worship as God. (v. 4)

Once the spirit of rebellion is released, then he’ll take total power. (v. 7)

He will be destroyed by God Himself. (v. 8)

Satan will give him power to do signs and wonders. (v. 9)

He will be very good at deception. (v. 10)

Revelation chapter 13

Satan will give him a throne, authority, and power. (v. 2)

Possibly will be killed and raised from the dead. (v. 3, 12,14)

He will receive worship along with Satan. (v. 4)

He will be a bragger and blasphemer. (v. 5)

He will specifically blaspheme God and everything of God. (v. 6)

He will overcome all people, especially Christians/Jews. (v. 7)

The False-Prophet will receive his power from the Anti-Christ. (v. 11-15)

Here are some additional scriptures and insights on Deception.

The Great Deception

There is one HUGE characteristic of the End-Times that we must be on guard to. This will be a time of deception like never seen before on earth.

A. Jesus warned us about it.

1. Matthew 24:4-5, 11, 24; Mark 13:5-6, 22
2. Even the elect could be deceived. Matthew 24:24.

B. Paul warned us about it.

1. 2 Thess. 2:3, 9-10; I Timothy 4:1-2; 2 Timothy 3:13, 4:3-4.

C. John warned us about it.

1. Rev. 20:3, 8

D. The Antichrist will be a deceiver.

1. Daniel 8:12, 24-25; 9:27; 11:36-45.
2. Matthew 24:15-31; II Thess. 2:3, 9, 10; Revelation 13:1-18; 19:20.
3. Revelation 16:12-16. (Via the False Prophet)

Deception is part of the spirit of antichrist which is alive and well and at work in the world. (I John 4:1-3)

What is deception? In layman's terms it is something that is false, but appears so real, people are tricked, persuaded to believe it is the real thing.

This spiritual anointing and power will be ever on the rise with the anointing and power of the antichrist spirit. We must be on guard, and ever increasing our discernment to distinguish what is truth (good) and what is false (evil). (Hebrews 5:12-14)

E. Here is how it will work in the church. (Believers)

(Mt 24:12-13 (NIV))

[12] Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, [13] but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

1. This scripture is not talking about people who don't love God. It's talking about people who do love God, but their love will grow cold.
2. How will it happen? As wickedness and the influence of it grows around us, it has a destructive and corrosive effect on a believer's Love for God. To Love God is to put him first and do what he wants in everything. (Obey him)

Wickedness, or Lawlessness attacks that perspective. It does everything we described in the introduction of this book. As a result we become deceived, and our Love for God grows cold. We leave our first love - which is pursuing what pleases God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And begin to live our lives according to what pleases us. (Selfishness)

(2 Th 2:7-8 (NIV))

[7] For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. [8] And then the lawless one will be revealed....

3. What is the secret power of lawlessness?

(G3466) KJV - 'Mystery' (NIV - 'Secret')

"From a derivative of "muo" (to shut the mouth); a secret or "mystery" (through the idea of silence imposed by initiation into religious rites)."

(G458) KJV - 'Iniquity' (NIV - 'Lawlessness')

"From 459; illegality, that is, violation of law or (generally) wickedness. :--iniquity, X transgress (-ion of) the law, unrighteousness.

(G459) From 1 (as a negative particle) and 3551; lawless, that is, (negatively) not subject to (the Jewish) law; (by implication a Gentile), or (positively) wicked. :— without law, lawless, transgressor, unlawful, wicked."

4. We'll explain these definitions, but let me say that these are alive and well in society and the church in America.
5. The 'Secret' power of lawlessness - or to use another word in the definition is to say the 'Silent' power of lawlessness.

- a. This wickedness is not going to operate as open, willful rebellion. It won't be Loud, noisy, and demanding to be heard.
- b. This is going to be operating quietly, below the surface. It won't be talked about for what it really is > Lawlessness. Yet it will be promoted.
- c. What is a huge aspect of how it operates?

Wickedness, or Lawlessness attacks our full-out, 100% submission to God. It undermines it, and tries to stop it.

It does everything we described in the introduction of this book. As a result we become deceived, and our love for God grows cold. We leave our first love - which is pursuing what pleases God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And begin to live our lives according to what pleases us. (Selfishness)

F. If there's one term that can follow everything the Devil does - it's: "The Great Deception".

1. He gained access to the human race by deception. (Genesis 3, I Timothy 2:14)
2. He tried it with Jesus. To gain access to the 2nd Adam. (Matthew 4:1-11)
3. And it will be a favorite ploy at the End of Time. (Revelation 20:3, 8)
4. He a Liar and the Father of Lies. (John 8:44) Lying is at the heart of Deception.

The Anti-Christ will gain his power and authority from the Devil. That's why the Bible says that he will also be a person of deception.

Realizing this, some of the kinds of questions that should go through our minds are:

- **What is society going to be like for this type of person to come to power, and be acceptable to people?**
- **What is the average person, family, and government going to be like? (This is some pretty drastic stuff that's going to prevail.)**
- **What is currently happening that is going to take us to that extreme?**
- **What happened in the moral fabric of humanity that opened the way for this?**

If we can find the answer to some of these questions, we will quickly see what the average person and overall society will be like leading up to this time. THIS IS THE TIME WE'RE LIVING IN RIGHT NOW. WE'RE WATCHING IT BEGINNING TO TAKE SHAPE ALL AROUND US.

What's so awesome is: the Bible tells the answers to these questions. It very openly and directly lays out what the attitudes of people and society will be like leading up to the revealing of the man - Anti-Christ. Remember: the power of anti-christ is already at work and gaining momentum. If we'll simply pay attention, we will see it at work all around us.

In the next chapter of this book, we're going to reveal and identify the problem or situation everyone on this earth is facing. (Including the body of Christ - his church)

Chapter 3

‘Un-Godly Pursuits’

(‘Identifying The Situation / Problem’)

I have re-listed the characteristics of how the Anit-Christ Spirit places it's influence / pressure on people. It's continual and constant. With the purpose of slowly sliding us into it's agenda.

It begins small, and then moves toward the Ultimate Goal:

- a. Innocently. A slow re-arranging of priorities and schedules (for whatever reason) away from God and what he wants as a nation, community, church, family, person.**

As believer's, it slowly moves us away from what he's telling us by his Spirit - we're to be doing.

- b. As believers, it encourages making choices without the leading of the Spirit. Using Wisdom of course - just not God's Wisdom. We say it's God's Wisdom, but unless we have heard from him - it's actually our wisdom.**

(James 3:13-18)

As unbeliever's, God's opinion simply isn't considered. Any moral basis or scripture connected to God isn't considered.. Decisions are made on a different basis. Again, it will be credited to wisdom and tolerance.

- c. As unbelievers, it may just seem wiser to not become too religious about life.**

As believers, We may have the thoughts: God gave us a mind to think and make choices. We don't have to hear from the Spirit or follow scripture about everything. That makes sense, doesn't it!

- d. Our reasoning, intellect, desires, and pride now become big players in our life.**

- e. Things that are not of God, but of the Devil's Kingdom begin creeping their way into our lives. (Remember: it all begins very innocently) It doesn't have to**

- be out-right sin - but it will likely re-shuffle our focus in life, and the things we make a priority to spend our time on. (Very Innocently)**
- f. As that 'Iniquity' (Bend toward evil in our lives) continues to grow in us, our Love and need for God grows less and less. (Matthew 24:12)**
 - g. Disobedience to the ways and desires of God begins to steadily increase. Of course, if it grows too much - we'll knock it back, because we're Christians. We take on the perspective of sin management, rather than sin elimination. After all, we don't want to get too different from this world. How would we reach them? (Where in reality, we probably haven't gotten anyone saved in years, if ever.)**
 - h. As a result, our relationship with God begins to suffer. Intimacy isn't increasing. His voice isn't growing stronger. We aren't increasingly being moved by what moves him. Our concern for the lost in this world is not increasing. The amount of time we dedicate to Eternal Fruit isn't increasing.**
 - i. The truth be known, these things will begin growing less and less of a priority in our lives.**

STATUS QUO HAS ENTERED OUR LIFE.

AND WE'RE GOOD WITH THAT.

- j. Now we're on a down-hill slide, toward the bigger goals of the Devil. (Remember: he's the one behind this whole thing)**
- k. The first Big Goal: Strip Christianity of its power and influence. Which really means: Strip you of your spiritual power and influence.**
- l. Cause people to think they don't need Jesus to be ready for eternity.**
- m. Plant the belief that there are other ways to heaven. Jesus isn't the only way.**
- n. Promote the common acceptance of Pantheism and Universalism.**
 - > Pantheism - there are many God's and ultimately they are the same God.**
 - > Universalism - Everyone is serving God in their own way, therefore everyone is already saved.**

It's more important to be a good person and member of society than a radical Christian or Jew who thinks their way of salvation is the only way.

o. The last great deception will be when the Anti-Christ is promoted as being the embodiment of all Gods. He is going to be touted as either the supreme representative of all the deities mankind views as God; or, He Is God.

p. The biggest goal:

ELIMINATE JESUS - AS THE ONLY MESSIAH AND SAVIOR - FROM THE LIVES AND THINKING OF THE HUMAN RACE.

+++++ **FOR BELIEVER'S AND NON-BELIEVER'S > IT ALL STARTS VERY SIMPLY:**

TURN PEOPLE FROM BEING GOD-CENTERED.
TO BEING SELF-CENTERED. SELFISH.

It is going to be the slow, but ever present increase and encroachment of wickedness. It is like an ever increasing pressure that works on people to move them away from a Godly, scriptural stance and posture in life. It pushes them toward evil, and the self-justification of what they are doing. It works so slowly, and with such deception, the average person has no idea what's happening to them.

We as christians are not immune to this movement of Anti-Anointing. That's why we're told over and over - don't be Deceived. Deception works ever so smoothly and slowly that if we aren't paying attention, it will suck us in and the worst part is we won't know we've been deceived. It makes so much sense to us. Yet that wisdom, which is not in line with the scripture - in reality is demonic. No matter how right it may seem. (James 3:14-16)

(Jas 3:13-16 (NIV))

[13] Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. [14] But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. [15] Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. [16] For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

Let's start by looking at a few of the things Jesus had to say about the period of time we are living in.

In all the scriptures I use below, I have only selected the verses and underlined the portions that reveal the attitudes of the time.

Mt 24:3-42 (NIV)

[3] As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"

[4] Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. [5] For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.

[9] "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. [10] At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, [11] and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. [12] Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, [13] but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. [14] And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

[36] "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [37] As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. [38] For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; [39] and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

[42] "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

v. 4-5 - Deception will be running rampant.

The problem with deception is that it is so difficult to recognize. Deception is not blatant. It is subtle. People who are deceived don't realize they're deceived. It becomes a blinder over their eyes. They can't see it.

Christians who are deceived are extremely difficult to help. No matter how obvious the deception is to people around them, they are blind to it. The only one who can point out the error, and show them the deception is the Holy Spirit.

If an individual tries to point out error to another believer, unless the Holy Spirit is involved in the situation convincing and persuading the person - what usually happens is they will rationalize and justify their choices and behaviors. It's very difficult to help them see what people around them are seeing.

v. 9 - Hatred of, Persecution of, and the Death will be prevalent for people who believe in and follow Jesus.

v. 10 - Many people back away from christianity and their faith in Jesus. They will betray and hate other believers. (Presumably a result of v. 9)

v. 11 - However, prophecy (via religious people, fortune telling, etc.) will be prevalent. These prophets will also work in deception.

This point is very interesting to me. As I look around, I ask myself where are all the profits in America? There doesn't seem to be too many in the secular world. So when Jesus says many fold prophets will arise and deceive many people, it makes me ask of these are going to be in the church?

I don't think the average believer is going to look at the prophecy of an unbeliever with a lot of sincerity. On top of the fact, there aren't what I would call 'many' prophets in the unbeliever realm. We know from the Old Testament accounts that false prophets can be in what we would call the church. So unless something really changes on the world scene, my conclusion is that these false prophets that will deceive many people - this is happening in the church.

v. 12 - Wickedness

G458. ἀνομία anómia, an-om-ee'-ah; From G459; illegality, that is, violation of law or (generally) wickedness. :--iniquity, X transgress (-ion of) the law, unrighteousness.

G459. ἄνομος anómós, an'-om-os; From 1 (as a negative particle) and 3551; lawless,

- As 'Iniquity' (KJV) or 'Wickedness' (NIV), or 'Lawlessness' (AMP) increases, the Love for God (and/or Love for fellow human beings) will get less and less.

v. 38 - The people will be living life as usual. (Viewing life as be 'normal')

v. 39 - Therefore, they were oblivious to what was happening around them and about to happen.

v. 42 - Evidently, people are not 'keeping watch' or paying attention.

The book of Mark adds a few details to this.

Mk 13:9-13 (NIV)

[9] "You must be on your guard. You will be handed over to the local councils and flogged in the synagogues. On account of me you will stand before governors and kings as witnesses to them. [10] And the gospel must first be preached to all nations.

[12] "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child. Children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. [13] All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

v. 9 - Not only are we to ‘watch’, but we need to ‘be on guard’. There will be increased persecution from all levels of government because of a person’s stance on Jesus and his Word.

v. 12 - This will infest families. They will betray each other.

v. 13 - The core of the problem: Jesus. Anyone who takes a stand for Jesus will be made a target.

As believers, our focus and job will be to ‘stand firm’ until it’s all over.

Presuming Jesus knew what he was talking about here, and I would think we are safe in presuming that, the increase of public sentiment against God, Jesus, the Bible, etc. is going to continue to grow until it gets pretty wicked.

For us to think that this is only going to take place in the unbelieving society, I think is a mistake. We are seeing the same type of attitudes enter and be accepted in the church as are in society. In v. 13 it says all men will hate you because of me, I think that includes the Christian families too. In Matthew 24:10 Jesus said, many will turn away from the faith and betray each other. To me that is a clear indication it is happening among believers in the church.

Notice how that in Luke, Jesus expresses his concern for how much faith will even be around when he returns.

(Lk 18:1-8 (NIV))

[1] Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

[2] He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. [3] And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

[4] “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care about men, [5] yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually wear me out with her coming!’”

[6] And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. [7] And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? [8] I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

The question that comes to my mind is this: How did the church ever get to this point?

That's simple: Instead of being an unmovable force of restraint, (II Thess. 2:6) too many believer's lost their saltiness and hid their light. (Matthew 5:13-16) As a result, instead of us influencing them to become like Jesus - we submitted to their influence and became like Satan. I realized putting it that way will probably shock some people, and of course our first instinct is to deny and say we are nothing like Satan. I would love to quickly agree with that. But the bottom line that we must measure against is what kind of fruit is coming from our lives. If it's not righteousness or light God, and there's only one other person that can be like - which is Satan.

The next scripture describes how society got to this point. The Holy Spirit, through Paul, really does a very insightful job of laying out the attitudes of society in the last days.

Here the Holy Spirit is revealing in plain English what the spirit of antichrist we'll cause a person and society to become.

This scripture is not just talking about unbelievers. It's talking about what 'People' will be like. That means there will be Christians like this also.

(2Ti 3:1-9 (AMP))

[1] BUT UNDERSTAND this, that in the last days will come (set in) perilous times (terrible times) of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear].

[2] For people will be lovers of self and [utterly] self-centered, lovers of money and aroused by an inordinate [greedy] desire for wealth, proud and arrogant and contemptuous boasters. They will be abusive (blasphemous, scoffing), disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy and profane.

[3] [They will be] without natural [human] affection (callous and inhuman), relentless (admitting of no truce or appeasement); [they will be] slanderers (false accusers, troublemakers), intemperate and loose in morals and conduct, uncontrolled and fierce, haters of good.

[4] [They will be] treacherous [betrayers], rash, [and] inflated with self-conceit. [They will be] lovers of sensual pleasures and vain amusements more than and rather than lovers of God.

[5] For [although] they hold a form of piety (true religion), they deny and reject and are strangers to the power of it [their conduct belies the genuineness of their profession]. Avoid [all] such people [turn away from them].

This is a very bleak description of the attitude that will be prevalent in the last days.

WE ARE LIVING IN THE LAST OF THE LAST DAYS!!

THESE ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF SOCIETY AROUND US!!!

THESE ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS THAT ARE TRYING TO GET INTO THE CHURCH.

To take the time to look at all these characteristics and try to explain them would be a book in and of itself. However if you take a close look at them, I think it's really obvious they can be summed up in one simple attitude: **SELFISHNESS**. Everything in that list can be summed up in:

- I want my way.
- I am proud of what I have or am.
- I will be-little or be-rail you if you think otherwise.
- I don't care what you want or prefer; I'm going to do it my way.
- and I'm not really interested in what God thinks, my focus is on my own pleasure, happiness, and what entertains me.

That whole list can be summed up in one simple word: **SELFISHNESS**. **There is the underlying attitude that the devil is going to use against people in the last days.**

It's unnerving to watch the attitude of selfishness gain momentum all around us. Isn't it interesting to see the SELFISHNESS that Jesus spoke about in Matthew 24 coming to life around us. It's doing exactly what he said: causing the Love for God to grow cold. Even pushing it to the point where people who take a stand for God become the focus of the discontent and must be controlled, silenced, or removed from society.

We are watching this happen around us right now. It is gaining in intensity. It is gaining great inroads in influencing and even changing the laws in society. So if the spirit of antichrist is capable of changing laws, it shouldn't surprise us to think that the man - Antichrist will pursue changing laws. (Daniel 7:25)

And here's the scary part to me: many or even most of the Christian churches in America are accommodating this move toward wickedness. Instead of taking a godly and scriptural stand against it, we're watching Christianity adapt to this wickedness and welcome it right into the churches.

There is the answer to the question we asked earlier: How did we ever get to this point?

We are being influenced and desensitized by an antichrist spirit and atmosphere that is slowly moving us into a lawless and wicked society. That lawlessness and wickedness is being built on one basic foundation: **SELFISHNESS**. This is exactly what Jesus and Paul said what happened.

Matthew 24:12 (NIV)

[12] Because of the increase of wickedness....

(2Ti 3:1-2 (AMP))

[1] BUT UNDERSTAND this, that in the last days will come (set in) perilous times (terrible times) of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear].

[2] For people will be lovers of self and [utterly] self-centered.....

(2Th 2:3-8 (NIV))

[3] Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for [that day will not come] until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. [4] He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

[5] Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? [6] And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. [7] For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. [8] And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.

THE SECRET POWER OF LAWLESSNESS IS ALIVE AND WELL. IT IS WORKING AMONG US. What is it doing? IT IS PUSHING ON PEOPLE TO MAKE US SELFISH.

SELFISHNESS is the main foundation to iniquity, wickedness, and lawlessness!!

Here are some additional scriptures that give more characteristics of what this time is going to look like:

(Lk 21:34-36 (NIV))

[34] "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. [35] For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. [36] Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

- 'Dissipation' > "Dispense; Waste or Squander; Indulgence in pleasure to the point of Self-Harm'.

- 'Drunkenness' > "State of Being Intoxicated; Intoxication".
- 'Anxieties' > "Worry; Worries; Cares".
- 'Life' > "Present Existence; Things that Pertain to this Life"

The Seven Churches of Revelation.

It is usually thought that only the Laodicean church is giving characteristics of what the last days Church will be like. However I'm not sure that is true. When you look at all the churches and the negative characteristics that Jesus said needed improving, they seem to go hand-in-hand with other scriptures that tell us what the last days Society will be like.

Because of that I have listed the Scriptures concerning the seven churches in Revelation so we can look at them one more time. In the previous listing of these churches, we looked at them from the perspective of what they were doing right, and what they still needed to Pursue.

This time let's look at the items Jesus stated as being wrong with them. The things they needed to repent of and fix. These are characteristics of what is going to 'try to get in', or 'is going to be in' to the last days church.

(Rev 2:1-3:22 (NIV))

[1] "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: [2] I know your deeds, ("deed, labor, work) your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. [3] You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

[4] Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. [5] Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. [6] But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. [7] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

*** Characteristics:

- > Though this church was doing some awesome things, Jesus was no longer first. If Jesus wasn't first, then who was? My guess is this: they were looking out for their own interests first. That's the way our old nature does it. Unless we are intentionally looking out for the interests of someone else before our own, we will gravitate to taking care of what we want first. It's called: SELFISHNESS.

[8] *"To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: (Remnant, or Bride Church)*

These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. [9] I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. [10] Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. [11] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.

*** Characteristics:

- > Jesus had nothing negative to say about this church. How they were Pursuing him was fine.

[12] *"To the angel of the church in Pergamum write:*

These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. [13] I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives. [14] Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. [15] Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. [16] Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. [17] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.

*** Characteristics:

Let's look at Balaam first. The entire story of Balaam is found in Numbers 22:1-24:25.

Balaam is referred to three times in the New Testament. (I Peter 2:15; Jude 11; Rev. 2:14) Each of the New Test. references are giving some insight into the mindset of Balaam. So we'll look at all three of them to see if we can find what the 'teaching of Balaam' would have been.

a. I Peter 2:15

(2Pe 2:15-16 (NIV))

[15] They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness. [16] But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey—a beast without speech—who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

- > The word 'wages' here is referring to silver and gold (money). God had already told Balaam what he should do, but when he was promised the honor of wealth - he had problems resisting. He was lured by the 'wages'.
- > So the problem here was putting more importance on money than what God had told him to do.

b. Jude 11

(Jude 11 (AMP))

[11] Woe to them! For they have run riotously in the way of Cain, and have abandoned themselves for the sake of gain [it offers them, following] the error of Balaam, and have perished in rebellion [like that] of Korah! [Ge 4:3-8; Nu 16,22-24.]

- > Again, I believe it's telling us the same thing as I Peter 2:15. There is too much importance being placed on money or financial wealth.

c. Rev. 2:14. (See above)

- > Here it specifically mentions 2 things:
 - (#1) Eating food sacrificed to idols.
 - (#2) Committing Sexual Immorality.

- > (#1) Let's look at food being sacrificed to idols. Paul talks about this subject quite a bit. His conclusion for New Testament people is that the physical eating of food that had been sacrificed to idols wasn't a big deal. However there are two things he points out that are a big deal. First of all, don't get involved with things that are intentionally designed to further demonic purposes. When we do, Paul says we are 'participants with demons'. And as christians we shouldn't be 'drinking of the Lord's cup, and the cup of demons too'. So even though the thing we are doing (in their case - it was eating food.....) may not harm us or not be a problem, (v. 23 - in that case it's permissible, but because of the spiritual context - it's not beneficial) the problem is we are submitting to and embracing the wrong spiritual force / kingdom. (demons) In Paul's mind, this was something very serious. He compared it to taking communion. (The blood and body of Jesus) He's saying, don't take communion with demons by getting involved with what they do.

And secondly, everything we do is not about us, but it needs to be about the purpose of getting other people saved.

(1Co 10:14-11:1 (NIV))

[14] Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry. [15] I speak to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. [16] Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? [17] Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. [18] Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? [19] Do I mean then that a sacrifice offered to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? [20] No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. [21] You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. [22] Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he? [23] "Everything is permissible"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible"—but not everything is constructive. [24] Nobody should seek his own good, but the good of others. [25] Eat anything sold in the meat market without raising questions of conscience, [26] for, "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it." [27] If some unbeliever invites you to a meal and you want to go, eat whatever is put before you without raising questions of conscience. [28] But if anyone says to you, "This has been offered in sacrifice," then do not eat it, both for the sake of the man who told you and for conscience' sake— [29] the other man's conscience, I mean, not yours. For why should my freedom be judged by another's conscience? [30] If I take part in the meal with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of something I thank God for? [31] So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. [32] Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God— [33] even as I try to please

everybody in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved. [1] Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

What's the application for us? We are living in a society that is enamored with things that lead people into sin. They don't point us toward Jesus, but rather they pull us away from him. Jesus said anything that is not for him is against him. (Matt. 12:30) There are only two sides to this war. We must pay close attention to what we allow ourselves to be involved with. Many things in this world do not produce Godly fruit. We shouldn't be involved with them. However like in Revelation 2:14, Christians will be involved in all kinds of things that do not promote God's kingdom but the devils kingdom. That is how we are participating with demons. (I Cor. 10:14-33) This will be a trait of the end times.

Money and finances are a huge driving force in this. Jesus said you can't serve both God and money. (Matt. 6:24) The lure of money and finances can draw a person into numerous pursuits that God does not agree with. That's how I think the principles of 1 Peter 2:15 and Jude 11 play into this picture. Balaam was drawn into Pursuits he shouldn't have been involved in. He did it, and we can follow suit because of a desire for more money. It becomes more about what we want than what God wants. This will also be an endtimes trait. (II Tim. 3)

- > (#2) Committing Sexual Immorality. Balaam taught Balak to offer his women into the Israelite men. Balaam knew if the Israelites did this God would get angry with them and possibly curse them himself. (Numbers 31:14-16) The result would be the Israelites would come under a curse, and Balaam would not have done it. And that's exactly what happened. God became angry and many were killed for their sin. (Num. 25:1-9)

Here's the application for us. An ever increasing trait of our time is sexual immorality. It is common for Christians to have sex outside of marriage. As well as, to live together before they're married. It is sin. It does not bring the Blessing, but opens us to a Curse. This is a trait that is becoming prevalent. Why?? It is being pushed by the spirit of antichrist.

Now let's look at the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

“These were the followers of Nicolaus. They are supposed to have been a sect of gnostics who practice been taught in purely moral doctrines, such as the community of wives, this was similar to the doctrines of Balaam and Jezebel of Thyatira.” (Rev. 2:6, 14-15, 20) Source: Dake's Annotated Bible.

Gnosticism is also going to be a problem among Christians. It is the backdrop to what the apostle John was dealing with in the book of First John when he was addressing the issues surrounding the power of anti-christ. Gnosticism can be summed up with one word: “KNOWLEDGE”. Since Gnosticism is tied to the word gnosis, which means: “knowledge of spiritual mysteries”, it is all about knowing things of God or true Spirituality that other people don’t know. Gnostics feel they have a revelation or knowledge about God that the average Christian does not have. The sect began in the second century. It continues to rear its ugly head about various doctrines and issues in Christianity. One of the most recent issues we have been dealing with in our time is Hyper-Grace. But it is touching and will touch many other areas. It is an ongoing problem in . There is always someone who feels they've been shown something and have a knowledge that the average Christian does not have. This is also a characteristic of the last days.

[18] “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. [19] I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

[20] Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. [21] I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. [22] So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. [23] I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds. [24] Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have

not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): [25] Only hold on to what you have until I come. [26] To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations—

[27] ‘He will rule them with an iron scepter; he will dash them to pieces like pottery’—just as I have received authority from my Father. [28] I will also give him the morning star.

[29] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

*** Characteristics:

- > See the notes on Nicolaitans. (above)
- > Again, notice the same three things as with the Church of Pergamum.
 - Sexual Immorality.

- Food Sacrificed to Idols.
- Gnosticism: (1) her teaching, and (2) Satans' so-called deep secrets.

[1] *"To the angel of the church in Sardis write:*

These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. [2] Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. [3] Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you. [4] Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. [5] He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels. [6] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

*** Characteristics:

- > By their works / deeds Jesus can tell they are not spiritually alive.

[7] *"To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: (Remnant, or Bride Church)*

These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. [8] I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. [9] I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be

Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. [10] Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.

[11] I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. [12] Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name. [13] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

*** Characteristics:

- > Jesus had nothing negative to say.

[14] "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. [15] I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! [16] So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. [17] You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. [18] I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. [19] Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. [20] Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. [21] To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. [22] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

*** Characteristics:

- > In Jesus' opinion they are lukewarm spiritually. They are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.
- > Yet in their opinion, because of their money and finances they feel they are doing very well.
- > Jesus is looking at their spiritual condition and it is very bleak. (v. 17b)
- > They are looking at their physical condition, (Finances and wealth) and are using it as the standard of how well they are doing.

(2Ti 4:3-4 (NIV))

[3] For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. [4] They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

This is happening in the church right now. And it will continue to grow in momentum. "Sound Doctrine" or what the Bible has to say, is no longer the final authority or basis for what we believe and teach in many churches and denominations. Why? Because people don't like what the Bible says. So as a result, they look for churches and ministers who will say what they want to hear. Even though, it's not what the scripture is saying.

Just like it says in v. 4, believers will turn away from the truth and start believing myths. (Beliefs, reasonings, doctrines, teaching, principles, etc.)

Summary:

How I would summarize everything we've been looking at:

Because of the increase of wickedness, and the pressure of the ungodly spirit realm around us, believers will be deceived into Pursuing the wrong Pursuits. (All the scriptures listed on the preceding pages) However, they won't be recognized as the wrong pursuits. (Matt. 24:37-39; II Tim. 3:1-4; Rev. 2 & 3) Christians and the Christian church will rationalize and excuse them away as being normal. 'It's just the way it is'. (II Tim. 3:5)

As wickedness increases around us and the love for God and the things of God grows cold, we will find ourselves being pulled into a deception, and lose faith. (Matthew 24:4, 10-12; Luke 18:8)

We will watch Believers become very Selfish. (II Tim. 3:1-5) What God considers to be merely pleasures and amusements will become the main focus of our lives, and

we will plan our lives around these things more than we are planning around God and what he desires. (II Tim. 3:4)

In our opinions, we're still Christians, but the proof that we have fallen into the deception will be the attitude of Spiritual Powerlessness. (II Tim. 3:5) The 'power' not active in our lives.

> That word for 'power' is 'dunamis'. That's the power of Acts 1:8. So if that power is not active in believer's lives, that means the Holy Spirit is also not active in their lives. Because that 'power' flows from the Spirit.

So the power will not be active, but more than that - believers will take a definite stand against it. Since the Holy Spirit ALWAYS points to Jesus, this will again be an attack on Jesus. Another form of denying him.

God help us that we are or our lineages do not become that type of christian.

Chapter 4

‘Godly Pursuits’

(‘Resolving the Situation / Problem’)

Here is the bottom line to everything we've been discussing. Human beings will always Pursue. We can pursue good, or we can pursue evil, but we will always be in Pursuit of something.

The increase of wickedness is designed to move the population of the world (including Christians) toward SELFISHNESS. People will be more focused on Pursuing

- what they want in life rather than what God wants,
- how they want to live than what moral or governmental laws may say,
- what makes them happy, comfortable, satisfied than what affect it may have on
other people.

The problem is: the antichrist spirit is pushing the population towards one particular way of Pursuit: SELFISHNESS and LAWLESSNESS. That is the current situation. It's trying to get on everyone - including Christians.

The solution is: to Pursue what God wants us to Pursue.

If we are truly Representatives or Reconcilers (2 Cor. 5:18-19) for God; if we are actually Ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:20) for his Kingdom, shouldn't we be doing his work while we're on earth? Shouldn't we be Pursuing what God Pursues?

Why do we feel we have the right to Pursue something that is not what God wants us Pursuing?

Here's what the Holy Spirit told me about this: (11/7/2014)

“Nothing has changed. It started with Lucifer and God. It was repeated with Adam / Eve and God. It has been repeating itself down through the history of mankind. It continues to do so to this day. Human beings are more concerned about their own interests and desires - than God's. They are more concerned about

what they want - than what God wants.

And pride is when they think they are correct. This is how life is supposed to be. Having no realization that they are wrong.

Love puts the needs and desires of God ahead of their own. Love puts the needs and desires of others equal with their own. (Matt. 22:37-40)

Godly Pursuit is keeping that in it's correct order, and living it."

I could end this chapter with that statement. If we really stop and think about what the Holy Spirit just said, that really sums it up.

Here's a scripture that says basically the same thing.

(Ro 8:5-8 (AMP))

[5] For those who are according to the flesh and are controlled by its unholy desires set their minds on and pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit and are controlled by the desires of the Spirit set their minds on and seek those things which gratify the [Holy] Spirit. [6] Now the mind of the flesh [which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit] is death [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter]. But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [both now and forever]. [7] [That is] because the mind of the flesh [with its carnal thoughts and purposes] is hostile to God, for it does not submit itself to God's Law; indeed it cannot. [8] So then those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] cannot please or satisfy God, or be acceptable to Him.

We pursue the things that are our Treasure or we're Passionate about.

This is what Brad Brede said the Lord told him about the coming Revival:

- a. The emphasis of the coming Revival will be the ministry of the believer.
- b. We will need to be passionate about where God is going by the Holy Spirit.
Getting into this move of the Spirit will need to become a PASSION of ours.
- c. The things we are passionate about are what consume us:
- Our Time, Energy, Mental Abilities, Priorities, Finances, etc.
- d. We will need to become passionate about God ministering through us.

How do we pursue what God Pursues?

What do we become Passionate about?

The best way to answer those questions is to look at what God is Pursuing.

If you remember back to Chapter 1 where we were looking at the question: Is Pursuit Scriptural? There I mentioned that God pursues because he Loves and is Love. We substantiated that with John 3:16.

Let's follow that line of thinking here. Let's look at what God pursues from the perspective of Love. One of the first places we see God Pursuing in Love is with the Old Testament Blessings and Curses. Here's an example of it in Exodus 34:

(Ex 34:5-7 (NIV))

[5] Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. [6] And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, [7] maintaining love to thousands, (Ex. 20:6 - 'generations') and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation." (cf. 20:6; Numbers 14:18; Deut. 5:8-10; 7:9-12)

We know it's the sins of the fathers that establishes curses. So the principle that was just laid out in Exodus 34 is talking about blessings and curses. A summation of these are found in Deuteronomy 28 and 30.

Blessings flow from a Loving God (Ex. 34: 6-7) to a people who have established a Loving and Obedient relationship with him. (Found in both the Old and New Testaments)

Curses establish when people disregard their God and the relationship of Love and Obedience they are supposed to have with him. (Found in both the Old and New Testaments)

One reason we know these principles still hold true today is because Paul quotes from Deuteronomy 30:11-14 in Romans 10:6-10 to establish how we should live in Faith. Paul applies what was said in Deuteronomy 30 about securing the Blessing to our using words of faith to secure our salvation (the Blessing) - today.

(Ro 10:6-10 (KJV))

[6] But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:)

[7] Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)

[8] But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

[9] 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.

[10] For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

When you put those two sections of scripture together, you see a Loving God trying to convince us to Pursue Blessing, and stay away from the Curse. To Pursue what God is Pursuing, would be to Pursue Blessing - which Paul equates with Salvation in Rom. 10.

That's how we get to one of the most famous scriptures in the Bible.

(Jn 3:16-18 (KJV))

[16] 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.

[17] For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

[18] He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

There you have Jesus's way of explaining Blessings, (Everlasting Life, Be Saved, Not Condemned) and Curses. (Perish, Condemned)

In Matthew 5:3-12, Jesus ties securing the Blessing to peoples attitudes and the way they posture themselves in life. God loves every human being, and he wants every human being to live in Blessing. But each one of us play a role in this. It's tied to what we Pursue. If we Pursue the correct things, we will be Blessed. That's what Jesus is saying in Matthew 5. (The Be-Attitudes)

(Mt 5:3-12 (NIV))

[3] "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[4] Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

[5] Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

[6] Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

[7] Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

[8] Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

[9] Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

[10] Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[11] "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. [12] Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

As we Pursue (set our attitude in agreement with God) God's Pursuits, we are Blessed.

God has intentionally set us up for Blessing. It's referred to in Acts 17.

(Ac 17:24-28 (NIV))

[24] "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. [25] And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. [26] From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. [27] God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. [28] 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

Our Loving God intentionally works with us even when we are still sinners (Eph. 2:4-5) in an effort to establish relationship with us so we can be Blessed. He sets the times of our Life on this earth, and even the places we will live, so that hopefully everyone will seek him, reach out to him, and find him. HE'S PURSUING THE SALVATION OF THE HUMAN RACE BECAUSE OF HIS GREAT LOVE FOR US. (Tie back into chapter 1 - 'Is Pursuit Scriptural?' It gives quite a bit more insight into how God's Pursuit which is motivated by his Love, how it manifests on this earth)

So now we've seen two things that God is always Pursuing because he Loves people.

(1) The Salvation of every human being. (I Tim. 2:3-4)

(1 Ti 2:3-6 (NIV))

[3] This is good, and pleases God our Savior, [4] who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. [5] For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, [6] who gave himself as a ransom for all men.....

(2) To Bless mankind with all the promises that come with our Salvation.

(Ac 3:24-26 (NIV))

[24] "Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel on, as many as have spoken, have foretold these days. [25] And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.' [26] When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

GOD IS PURSUING:

(1) THE SALVATION OF EVERY HUMAN BEING ON EARTH.

By Salvation I am referring to God providing:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| - Forgiveness | - Redemption |
| - Reconciliation | - Justification |
| - Sanctification | - Healing |
| - Peace | - Freedom from sin |
| - Power over the Devil | - Eternal Life |
| - The Holy Spirit | - Etc. |

(2) GOD IS WORKING TO BRING EVERY HUMAN BEING INTO THE BLESSING THAT HE US WANTS US TO LIVE IN.

This is referring to God wanting the things mentioned in (1) - above, to be established and active in people's lives.

One of the prophecies (August 4, 2013) stated that God's Love for us is 'Just wanting the Best for Us'. Wanting to see the best come to pass for someone's life, and being a part of bringing that to pass - BECOMES A MOTIVATION OF OUR LIVES. When God says he wants us Blessed, he's motivated to see that come to pass. That's Love.

Our part in both of these is wrapped up in the first and second commandments.

(Mk 12:29-31 (NIV))

[29] "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. [30] Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' [31] The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

- > The first commandment is made possible when a person is saved. (Including us)
- > The second commandment takes place when we are striving to see everyone come into the first commandment. (Trying to get others saved and into a position of Blessing)

How do we help bring people into the Blessing? There's two things involved with this: (1) Discipleship. (2) The Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Let's look at Discipleship first.

THE THIRD THING THAT GOD IS PURSUING:

(3) DISCIPLESHIP. (Making Disciples)

This is the process of growth that God uses to cause the things that he has provided via 'Salvation' to actually take root, live, and thrive in believers.

Having disciples and making disciples is talked about often in scripture.

- A. The word 'Disciple (s)' is used 255 times in the New Testament. They are always describing either the original 12 apostles, or other believer's who have lived a life that was intensely following Jesus via obedience to him.
- B. We were commanded by Jesus to 'Go make Disciples' by water baptizing them, and 'teaching them to obey.' (Matt. 28::18-20)
- C. There are so many scriptures on Disciples. I'll simply give a few here that emphasize a Disciple as being one who adheres to a specific set of beliefs and lives in obedience to them. Those beliefs being in Jesus being the Christ.

(Ac 6:1-2, 7 (KJV))

[1] And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

[2] Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

[7] And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

(Ac 9:1 (KJV))

[1] And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

(Ac 14:21-23 (KJV))

[21] And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

[22] Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

[23] And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

(Ac 9:10 (KJV))

[10] And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

THE FOURTH THING THAT GOD IS PURSUING:

God wants an intimate relationship with every person on this earth.

He accomplishes that via the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

(4) THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is absolutely vital to building a relationship with God, understanding God, understanding the Word, being Empowered while on the earth, and Living in Victory in every area of our lives.

I'm not talking about the Deposit of the Spirit we receive at Salvation. I'm talking about the work that is subsequent to salvation that God does in our hearts. The Infilling / Baptism in the Spirit which gives the Power.

Here are a few scriptures that show the kind of relationship God wants with us via the Holy Spirit.

(Jn 14:15-21 (NIV))

[15] "If you love me, you will obey what I command. [16] And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— [17] the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. [18] I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. [19] Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. [20] On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. [21] Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

(Jn 14:25-27 (NIV))

[25] "All this I have spoken while still with you. [26] But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. [27] Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

(Jn 16:5-16 (NIV))

[5] "Now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' [6] Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. [7] But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. [8] When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: [9] in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; [10] in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; [11] and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. [12] "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. [13] But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. [14] He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. [15] All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you. [16] "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me."

(Lk 11:11-13 (NIV))

[11] “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? [12] Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? [13] If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

(Lk 24:49 (NIV))

[49] I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

(Ac 1:3-8 (NIV))

[3] After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. [4] On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. [5] For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

[6] So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

[7] He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. [8] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

(Ac 2:37-39 (NIV))

[37] When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

[38] Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. [39] The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

God is pursuing an intimate relationship with every human being on earth. He is so focused on it that he has arranged for one third of the trinity to come and live with us and in us. The Holy Spirit, who is God, has been sent to this earth for the purpose of establishing an intimate relationship with God's people, so they will be prepared for, and ready to have an eternal relationship with God.

God is in Desperate Pursuit of a relationship with mankind.

To summarize: **WHAT GOD IS PURSUING:**

(1) GOD IS PURSUING THE SALVATION OF EVERY HUMAN BEING ON EARTH.

- a. Our Salvation.
- b. The Salvation of others.

(2) GOD IS WORKING TO BRING EVERY HUMAN BEING INTO THE BLESSING. HE WANTS US TO LIVE IN IT.

(3) GOD IS PURSING THE DISCIPLESHIP OF THE BELIEVER.

(4) GOD IS PURSUING BRINGING BELIEVER'S INTO AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, VIA THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Chapter 5

‘Pursuing What God Pursues’

(‘God’s Pursuit In & Through Our Lives as Believers’)

Now we know what God is pursuing. That is the model of what we should be pursuing.

But the next question that needs answering is, how do we pursue that in our own personal lives?

At this point we could look at how every one's occupation is important to God. And as important as that maybe, it is not the focus of the attack of the antichrist spirit on this earth at this time.

This is what I mean by that: the Devil doesn't really care if you are a plumber, a carpenter, a financial advisor, an engineer, the president of some large corporation, a governmental leader, or even the president of United States. Even as important as they are in our society, our earthly occupations and what we accomplish in them have very little significance in the light of eternity.

I am not belittling the King aspect of living on this earth. I enjoy living in a house that a carpenter built. I enjoy having electricity that an electrician installed into the house. I'm thankful for the indoor plumbing that a plumber installed. I find comfort in the fact that an architect put the drawings together and they were approved by an engineer. It gives me more confidence that the house will not fall in on me.

There is no honest occupation on this earth that is not desirable, and in many cases vital to man's survival. So I appreciate the role the Kings play in the business aspect of this world.

However I will say this, every occupation on this earth must come second to what God is trying to accomplish. Part of the deception of the end times will be to reverse that order.

It will try to develop an attitude in us so we place the most emphasis on the job or career that God has given to us to supply our needs. And what we do in ministry becomes second in our priorities, desires, goals, and planning. **This is part of the deception that we as Christians must be aware of, and guard in our lives so it does not get into us.**

What I am saying is we have all been made a Royal Priesthood to God. That is first and primary. We are all ministers. Your occupation is not the reason God put you on this earth.

Once we have been brought into God's kingdom, our first and primary reason for existence is to Pursue what God is Pursuing.

Now I do say: thank God that some of his people take it seriously that God uses our finances to do his work. It is one of the ways our earthly occupations can have some eternal reward and benefit. Since financial giving to the church is an aspect of ministry, I would not be surprised that in the near future - our giving to churches and ministries will also come under strong scrutiny and attack. Anything of Godly Eternal Value will come under the attack of the anti-christ spirit.

The things of this earth will pass away. But the things of God's Kingdom are eternal. The power of antichrist may work through the things of this earth, but what it's really after is a direct attack on the Kingdom of God. The power of antichrist is not interested in earthly occupations. It's focus is on God and his Eternal Purposes. That's another reason I know that in the priority scale of things - what we do for the Kingdom is far more important than what we do as an occupation on earth. Anti-christ power's entire purpose is to thwart God's eternal purposes.

So we are not going to spend time talking about our kingly purposes on this earth. We are going to stay focused on the things of the Kingdom of God and the Priestly role we have been granted.

Here is where the problem can really develop. If the spirit of the age has succeeded in influencing us, it is turning us Selfish. The only things that will really matter to us are the things that have to do with us. We won't really care what God is Pursuing, nor will we make it a Pursuit in our life. In the Selfishness of lawlessness of the spirit of the age, our focus will only be on our desires, happiness, plans, and the things we want. The way we want life to turnout for us.

Our lack of pursuit in regard to the things of God, will be devastating to our salvation, the salvation of our lineage, and the salvation of this world.

Whatever God has asked you to do regarding an occupation while you're on this earth, do it with all your might. Just remember it must come second in priority to your Pursuit of what God is Pursuing on this earth.

No matter what our occupation on this earth may be, the primary purpose for us as believers while we are here on earth is to bring as many people into relationship with God as possible. Our job, career, business, etc. is merely God's way of (a) supplying our needs, and (b) supplying for us so we can give to his work. The largest part of our secular activity is to position us so we can present the gospel to and be an influence on others.

What we do for occupation, what type of house we live in, how much money we have in the bank, how well-off we'll be in retirement, do we have the ability to travel the world, all come second in priority to reaching the lost.

God's primary Pursuit for us does not revolve around our happiness, comfort, personal interests, personal ambitions, etc. God is first and foremost trying to reach the Lost. Does he give us everything for our enjoyment? Yes. (1 Timothy 6:17) But it's when these things come before God's purpose for us in reaching the lost and discipling believers that it's out of order and it's turning into SELFISHNESS.

What is God's primary Pursuits in our lives?

They are no different than the primary Pursuits that God has concerning this world.

We are to be dead in Christ, and he is now living through us. (Gal. 2:20) If he's actually living through us, he will be doing the things that are priorities to him - THROUGH US. We already stated what God is Pursuing regarding the human race.

THOSE WILL BE GOD'S PRIMARY PURSUITS IN OUR LIVES.

(#1) He wants us, and every person on earth - Saved.

- > IF THIS IS WHAT GOD IS PURSUING, WE SHOULD BE PURSUING THE SAME THING WITH HIM.
- > **THAT MEANS OUR #1 PURSUIT IN LIFE SHOULD BE TO REACH THE UNBELIEVER AND MAKE THEM BELIEVERS.**

Those unbelievers will be our family, friends, relatives, co-workers, community, etc.

(Jn 3:16-18 (NIV))

[16] "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. [18] Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

(Mt 18:14 (KJV))

[14] Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

(2Pe 3:9 (KJV))

[9] The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

(Lk 19:10 (NIV))

[10] For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.

(Jn 20:21-23 (NIV))

[21] Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." [22] And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23] If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

(Mt 5:13-16 (NIV))

[13] "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

[14] "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. [15] Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. [16] In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

(2Co 3:2 (KJV))

[2] Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

(2Co 5:14-6:1 (AMP))

[14] For the love of Christ controls and urges and impels us, because we are of the opinion and conviction that [if] One died for all, then all died;

[15] And He died for all, so that all those who live might live no longer to and for themselves, but to and for Him Who died and was raised again for their sake.

[16] Consequently, from now on we estimate and regard no one from a [purely] human point of view [in terms of natural standards of value]. [No] even though we once did estimate Christ from a human

viewpoint and as a man, yet now [we have such knowledge of Him that] we know Him no longer [in terms of the flesh].

[17] Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come!

[18] But all things are from God, Who through Jesus Christ reconciled us to Himself [received us into favor, brought us into harmony with Himself] and gave to us the ministry of reconciliation [that by word and deed we might aim to bring others into harmony with Him].

[19] It was God [personally present] in Christ, reconciling and restoring the world to favor with Himself, not counting up and holding against [men] their trespasses [but cancelling them], and committing to us the message of reconciliation (of the restoration to favor).

[20] So we are Christ's ambassadors, God making His appeal as it were through us. We [as Christ's personal representatives] beg you for His sake to lay hold of the divine favor [now offered you] and be reconciled to God.

[21] For our sake He made Christ [virtually] to be sin Who knew no sin, so that in and through Him we might become [endued with, viewed as being in, and examples of] the righteousness of God [what we ought to be, approved and acceptable and in right relationship with Him, by His goodness].

[1] LABORING TOGETHER [as God's fellow workers] with Him then, we beg of you not to receive the grace of God in vain [that merciful kindness by which God exerts His holy influence on souls and turns them to Christ, keeping and strengthening them — do not receive it to no purpose].

(#2) He wants us and every other human being - Blessed.

> IF THIS IS WHAT GOD IS PURSUING, WE SHOULD BE PURSUING THE SAME THING WITH HIM.

THAT MEANS OUR MAIN MOTIVATION IN LIFE SHOULD BE TO REACH THE UNBELIEVER AND MAKE THEM BELIEVERS SO THEY CAN LIVE IN THE BLESSINGS OF GOD.

Those people will be our family, friends, relatives, co-workers, community, etc.

(Ac 3:25-26 (NIV))

[25] And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.' [26] When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

(Ro 10:12-13 (NIV))

[12] For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, [13] for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

(Ga 3:14-15 (NIV))

[14] He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

(#3) He wants us and every believer - Disciplined.

> IF THIS IS WHAT GOD IS PURSUING, WE SHOULD BE PURSUING THE SAME THING WITH HIM.

We are to be Pursuing the process of growth that God uses to cause the things that he has provided via ‘Salvation’ to actually take root, live, and thrive in our lives. God has also told us to Pursue this same process in others, so we should also be active in helping other people grow and mature in the provision of God.

(Mt 28:18-20 (NIV))

[18] Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

(Jn 15:8 (NIV))

[8] This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

(#4) He wants us, and every other believer - Baptized in the Holy Spirit.

> IF THIS IS WHAT GOD IS PURSUING, WE SHOULD BE PURSUING THE SAME THING WITH HIM.

We need to be Pursuing a living, dynamic relationship with the Holy Spirit for ourselves - and helping others to do the same.

(Jn 16:7 (AMP))

[7] However, I am telling you nothing but the truth when I say it is profitable (good, expedient, advantageous) for you that I go away. Because if I do not go away, the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, Strengtheners, Standby) will not come to you [into close fellowship with you]; but if I go away, I will send Him to you [to be in close fellowship with you].

(Ac 1:4-8 (NIV))

[4] On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. [5] For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

[6] So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

[7] He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. [8] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

(Ac 2:37-39 (AMP))

[37] Now when they heard this they were stung (cut) to the heart, and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles (special messengers), Brethren, what shall we do?

[38] And Peter answered them, Repent (change your views and purpose to accept the will of God in your inner selves instead of rejecting it) and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of and release from your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

[39] For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is to and for you and your children, and to and for all that are far away, [even] to and for as many as the Lord our God invites and bids to come to Himself. [Isa 57:19; Joe 2:32.]

ALL '4' PURSUITS ARE FOR US BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY ABOUT US.

Yes, God sincerely wants us Saved, Blessed, Discipled, and Baptized in the Spirit. But God is also working in us and preparing us so that we can get in the yoke with Jesus and help him accomplish all of these Pursuits in other people.

The reason we are Saved is for us - yes! But we are also to be a source of salvation for others. We cannot give to them what we have not received.

The reason we are Blessed is for us - yes! But God didn't quit Pursuing when we responded to his prompting. He is still Pursuing. He's Pursuing others so they can be Blessed also.

The reason we are Discipled is for us - yes! But again, it's so we can go and make disciples.

The reason we are Baptized with the Holy Spirit is so that we can be prepared, equipped, and empowered - yes! But the end result of that is for us to be witnesses to everyone in our world.

Why? So those Four Purposes and Pursuits of God, can be reproduced in everyone in this world. That reproduction takes place through us.

John 15. If you read the whole chapter in context, you will see it's talking about the salvation of other people. What is the purpose for fruit from a vine or a tree? The fruits purpose is always to nourish and give life to the seed inside the fruit. The purpose for the seed is to reproduce the vine or the tree.

There are those who feel the following scripture is talking about the fruit of the Spirit. I don't believe it is. The Fruit of the Spirit is not mentioned any place in this scripture. It's speaking about bearing the fruit of Jesus. The first thing that Jesus works to accomplish in the life a a person is Salvation. Then the Baptism in the Spirit follows that.

Jesus came for one very specific purpose. That was to bring salvation to this world. That is the fruit that we are to be reproducing. Our bearing fruit is first and primarily to be reproducing more believers.

Here's John 15:

(Jn 15:1-27 (NIV))

[1] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. [2] He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. [3] You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. [4] Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

[5] “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. [6] If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. [7] If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. [8] This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

[9] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. [10] If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. [11] I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. [12] My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. [13] Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. [14] You are my friends if you do what I command. [15] I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. [16] You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. [17] This is my command: Love each other.

[18] “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. [19] If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. [20] Remember the words I spoke to you: ‘No servant is greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. [21] They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me. [22] If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin. [23] He who hates me hates my Father as well. [24] If I had not done among them what no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. But now they have seen these miracles, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. [25] But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: ‘They hated me without reason.’

[26] “When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. [27] And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

v. 12-13 > He is talking about his death so salvation can be brought to this world.

v. 16-17 > We are chosen and appointed to do as he did. This is Loving each other.

v. 18-19 > The world hates Jesus and us because we are not of the world. That means the people he’s talking about are still unsaved.

v. 21 > They will hate us and treat us this way because they don’t know the Father.

- v. 22 > The reason for speaking to the unsaved is so they will realize they are sinners.
- v. 24 > The reason for doing miracles with the unbeliever is to show them the guilt of their sin. Ultimately, Jesus (and us) was trying to get them to be believers. But they refused, and remained in their hate of God.
- v. 26 > The reason for the Holy Spirit is so he can pick up where Jesus left off in connection to getting the world saved. He will testify of Jesus. And we must testify of Jesus.

Did you see that the thrust of this entire chapter has to do with the lost, and getting them saved. It's about re-producing Jesus in people. And the people Jesus was speaking of were the ones who specifically did not know him or the father.

There is the heart and soul of our existence as believers on this earth. Those four points sum up the Pursuit which God has been engaged in concerning our lives, and everyone else in this world.

It's in that Pursuit that he wants us to join with him. The ultimate purpose of everything in our life being the Salvation of the unbeliever and their subsequent Spiritual Growth..

I think it's good to remind ourselves of something again.

We pursue the things that are our Treasure or we're Passionate about.

ARE WE PASSIONATE ABOUT THE SAME THINGS GOD IS PASSIONATE ABOUT?
OR, ARE WE CONSUMED BY WHAT WE WANT OUR LIFE TO BE LIKE?

SCRIPTURALLY - IT'S ONE OR THE OTHER. WE CAN'T HAVE BOTH.

What causes some believers to Pursue and be Consumed with God and His Desires, and others - well, it seems like it either doesn't move them at all, or it shows up in 'spurts'. What causes that?

It's the same thing that causes some people to be sold out to God, and others to be quite uncommitted and undedicated.

There are a number of places it's talked about in the New Testament. Let me refer to one:

There is something important to note here: In the first three Gospels, this person is referred to as a woman. In John, he states who this 'woman' was. It was Mary. (Sister of Martha and Lazarus) So this is not some random person who is just now believing in Jesus. This is a woman who has been with Jesus, believing in him and supporting him from the beginning of his ministry.

Lk 7:36-50 (NIV - (cf. Mt. 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 12:1-8)

[36] Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. [37] When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, [38] and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. [39] When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

[40] Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said.

[41] "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. [42] Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

[43] Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

[44] Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. [45] You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. [46] You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. [47] Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little."

[48] Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

[49] The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

[50] Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

What made Mary so passionate, dedicated, and committed to Jesus?

It's obvious from what Jesus said: It was a Love issue. Mary Loved Jesus so much. That's what caused her passion for and Pursuit of him.

What causes some believer's to Love God so intensely, while others are kind of Ho-hum about the whole thing? Jesus tells us 2 times in that section of scripture.

Verse 42-43; and verse 47.

Jesus said, it's the person who has been forgiven the most, who will Love the most.

In his discussion with this Pharisee, Jesus is comparing the Pharisee's Love for Jesus with that of Mary's. (v. 40-47) This is critical to understanding Jesus' conclusion. The Pharisees viewed themselves as being Godly people. They felt they were more righteous, holy, dedicated, and committed to God than the average person. Their attitude was that they considered themselves better than other people.

You can see that attitude in the section of scripture on the previous page:

[39] When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

(Lk 7:39 (AMP))

[39] Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw it, he said to himself, If this Man were a prophet, He would surely know who and what sort of woman this is who is touching Him — for she is a notorious sinner (a social outcast, devoted to sin).

There is an arrogant, self-righteous attitude!

So we see that the person who's been forgiven the most loves the most. (v. 42-43, 47a) And the person who has been forgiven a little, loves a little. (v. 47b)

Now when you stop and think about it, that is an interesting statement. Are some people such great sinners compared to others? I thought the Scripture teaches that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. If everybody has sinned, and the wages of that sin is death - equally for everyone - what difference does it make who sinned more or less? We're all sinners.

I think the answer is wrapped up in the attitude of the person. Not the amount of sin they have committed. If the depth of our Love for God is proportional to the amount of sin we have committed, then we should go and sin a lot more so we can love God a lot more. Can you see it?? That doesn't make sense and it's basically the same argument that Paul dispelled in Romans 6:1-2.

This principle is wrapped up in the attitude of the person. The Pharisee thought he was pretty good. He couldn't see his sinful condition. Since he didn't see how wretched he was without a Savior, he had little Love for the Savior.

On the other hand, Mary realized that she was a sinner. She recognized her condition without the Savior. As a result, she Loved Jesus very deeply.

You might be thinking, so Pastor what difference does that make?

Here is the difference. To be passionate about Jesus and pursue him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, we will need to genuinely see ourselves for what we really are and what we would be without him. (Just like Mary did)

THE DEPTH THAT WE CAN SEE WHAT JESUS HAS DONE FOR US, WILL BE DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL TO THE DEPTH OF OUR LOVE, PASSION, COMMITMENT TO, AND PURSUIT OF - HIM AND HIS WAYS.

THE PERSON WHO LOVES MUCH, IS THE ONE WHO REALIZES GOD HAS DONE A LOT IN THEIR LIVES. To Realize what God has Really done in our lives, we must see how wretched of a person we really were, and where that would have taken us without him.

THE LEVEL OF OUR PASSION AND PURSUIT DIRECTLY CORRESPONDS TO THE DEPTH OF OUR LOVE.

IT'S A LOVE ISSUE!!

I can understand how an unbeliever can easily be influenced to have very little love for God. They don't know God. They've never tasted or seen how good God is. So to me, I can understand that.

But what would cause a believer who has experienced God, tasted and seen that he is good, and had a relationship with him, what would cause them to back off on their Love for God? I believe Jesus gave a huge part of that answer in Matthew 24:

(Mt 24:10-13 (NIV))

[10] At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, [11] and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. [12] Because of the increase of wickedness, (KJV - 'Iniquity'; AMP. - 'Lawlessness and Iniquity') the love of most will grow cold, [13] but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

Notice 2 points here:

1) Iniquity is our personal 'Bend toward Sin'. It's the wicked and lawless desires

in us, that are affecting us. **NOTICE: It's our own sinful desires that is causing our Love for God to grow Cold.**

2) He who "stands firm to the end will be saved". Stand firm to the end concerning what? **Standing firm so that our own 'Iniquity' will not be allowed to diminish our Love for God.**

The scheme of the antichrist anointing is to get us as believers (or unbelievers) to love ourselves more than God. **The tool he is using: it's our own 'Iniquity, lawlessness, wickedness'.** If he (Satan) can entice us to be more committed to our desires, plans, priorities, purposes, goals, happiness, what we consider to be right or wrong, what we consider to be sin or not sin, etc. - more than we are committed to God's - HE'S GOT US. WE WILL BEGIN TO COOL OFF IN OUR LOVE FOR GOD. (Or as in the case of an unbeliever, they may never come to God)

If he can entice us to Pursue what we want in life more than we Pursue what God wants in our life - he will have succeeded in causing us to begin moving down the path that is ungodly. It will eventually destroy us and our lineage as it will ultimately destroy this world.

WHAT ARE YOU COMMITTED TO, PASSIONATE ABOUT, DEDICATED TO, AND PURSUING - THAT ISN'T SOMEHOW ABOUT YOU, OR BENEFIT YOU, OR CAUSE YOU LOOK GOOD - SOMEHOW??

WHAT IN YOUR LIFE ARE YOU PURSUING AND PASSIONATE ABOUT THAT DOESN'T EVENTUALLY, SOMEHOW - BENEFIT YOU OR IS ABOUT YOU??

'Iniquity' - WHAT ARE WE ALLOWING OURSELVES TO DO, NOT TO DO, BE INVOLVED IN, NOT BE INVOLVED IN - THAT WE WOULDN'T ALLOW IF JESUS WERE PERSONALLY RIGHT THERE - IN THE FLESH - WITH US??

IT'S A LOVE ISSUE!! AND IT'S OUR INIQUITY THAT IS COMPROMISING OUR LOVE, PASSION, AND PURSUIT OF GOD!!!

But the awesome part about this is: We can be free from our Iniquity. (Isaiah 53:5)

By faith, we can overcome it's affects on our spiritual life.

The old nature and iniquity is not stronger than the power of God in our lives. Jesus paid the cost for our freedom. He is able to work that freedom through every fiber of our being.

If we will recognize what the iniquity within us is trying to accomplish, and the tool it can be against us in the wrong hands, we can deal with it.

IT DOES NOT HAVE TO AFFECT US AND COOL OUR LOVE FOR GOD.

Repent of it and get it out of your life. Don't handle it like the Laodicean church did.

Chapter 6

‘What God Has Been Pursuing in Word of Life’

A church is made up of people. When we as a church are pursuing what God pursues, it's actually the people who were doing the Pursuing. What has God asked the people of Word of Life to pursue? What is God trying to accomplish through this organization?

In this chapter we're going to look at parts of the Vision, the Assignments and Mandates that God has given for Word of Life. It's categorized by the year it was given.

2004 - Present: (Over-view)

A. **Word of Life was formed for the Generations.** This was spoken to Pastor Vern before they had moved to MN. The Lord has confirmed it repeatedly via prophecies.

1. What does that mean? Our focus should not be predominantly about the older generation and what they want. This happens many times in churches. The reason usually is two-fold.

- It's the older generation that has the money to fund the organization.

- They are the ones the Lord worked through to get the organization to this point. Therefore because pride enters in - it is presumed the next generation doesn't know what they're doing. So we're going to stay in control and not allow the generations behind us to become the focus.

We must not allow that attitude to develop at W/L.

2. Generations immediately infers Family. You can't have Generations without Family. Everything we do needs to either have some type of family vision, or support a family vision.

3. "They are the Hope of this world." (1/14/11)

This is the way we need to view the next generations. We must see and understand their importance in the revivals of the last days.

B. Where.

1. Cambridge, MN and the surrounding area. (Given: November, 2003)
2. In the spring of 2009, God assigned a geographical area to us. We are to watch over this region and work in it spiritually.
3. Will our assignment of 'where' - grow larger than that? It may, but for now that is all that has been revealed. However, we have been told to get onto the 'Corridors of Victory'. (May 16, 2009) That has to do with ministry within the region. In time it will likely extend beyond the current region.

C. How.

1. Via a church-based type of organization. We are not a traveling ministry; a TV based ministry; a literature based ministry; an internet ministry; nor a conference based ministry. God has asked us to be a church-based ministry. That will automatically help dictate how we will operate and function.
2. Via all media available. We may not be a media-based ministry, but that doesn't stop us from using whatever media is available to accomplish our Assignments.
3. Churches are people-to-people type of organizations. That will always dictate staff. One person can only minister to a limited number of people. To stay available to everyone and have the time to minister to them beginning with the individual, to the couple, to the family, etc. demands people-power. One-on-one interaction. That can only be accomplished through staff. (Volunteer or Hired)

D. Joseph's Anointing.

The church moved to MN and was established under the Joseph's Anointing. That anointing began spring of 2002. This anointing has to do with ultimately preparing for and weathering difficult times. Not only coming through these difficult times, but Prospering in them.

This is a last-days anointing. The more difficult things become in the world around us, the more Word of Life will Prosper. This Prosperity during difficult times is a promise of this Anointing. (Joseph's Anointing) It will be on all who are connected into and supporting/flowing in the Vision God has given to this ministry.

1. *Know those who labour among you. (Jim Kaseman)*

“And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in

love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.”

1 Thessalonians 5:12 - KJV

Bro. Kaseman teaches that we are to guard ministry in the church. Do not allow just anyone to minister. Treat it as a Holy thing. Not taken lightly. Know the people who minister with you. Know the people you bring in to minister. They can mess you up or help you. They can help build the ministry or help destroy it.

Why is this important in a Last-Days Church? Because of Deception. It will try to get into every church in this world. There will be many false prophets in christianity and the church. To not guard against the false, will be to invite it.

E. ‘Opening of the Scroll’.

Below are listed portions of various ‘Prophecies’, ‘Words’, and ‘Direction’ the Lord has given to Word of Life. Obviously if God is telling us something, it must have to do with the ‘Pursuit’ he’s trying to accomplish in our lives. So being able to ‘See’ what God is saying and having it ‘Revealed’ to us is paramount. It is part of the ‘Vision’.

We refer to it as ‘Lines of the Scroll’ or the ‘Opening of the Scroll’ because of what the Lord said to us in a prophecy. Here is the portion of that prophecy which we are quoting.

“And the place where I am taking you which will unfold before you as a scroll and it will open and you will begin reading from the bottom to the top, you will begin reading line by line and it will grow, and intensify and become closer to the height of completion as you read it up. And what I am showing you is not about you, it’s for you. You will be blessed and benefit and reap from it, it’s for you, but it is not about you. There is an eternal purpose that my father has planned, and you are part of it. And my father’s eternal purpose will prevail. I say it again. I will oversee, that my father’s eternal purpose prevails. I have chosen and hand picked you to be part of this last days.” (10/16/2005)

In this manual, we are trying to at least touch some of the core points that the Lord has given to us over the years. Many of them are in the Prophecies given at Word of Life. However, there are many things that have been told to us aside from the prophecies. He told us to find a way to remember what he tells us. So we try to record most everything. Below you will see some of what the Lord has told us. I've tried to pick out the portions that directly apply to 'Pursuit'.

Some of the prophecies are given in their entirety. Some of the ones referred to below are partial. For the entirety of what was said, please visit the website.

Lines of the Scroll: (On-going Information & Revelation for the journey)

2004

(1) January, 2002 - Angel spoke to Mary.

- "This is the year of the Joseph's Anointing"
- It was the Anointing that moved us to MN. It is the Anointing and pattern that will continue to operate in the church in MN.

2) January, 2004

One of the reasons we were to move to MN was for the Generations.

"Uncompromisingly speak the Word. Stake the future of the ministry on the Word of God."

2005

3) Word of Life is called to be a Bride Church. (Prophecy - 1/30/2005)

4) (Given to Joe Samsa - 9/25/2005 > First Sunday in the Modular Building)

- You have been deemed a last days church.
- You have been given a new name.
- The other levels are about to be super-imposed. (Reference Dream: Spring, 1995)
- I give you the North.

5) October 16, 2005 - Prophecy Given At Word Of Life - By: Pastor Vern

“My people I want you to know this morning that I am pleased with you. I am pleased with you. Many of you are underestimating what I am doing in you. This is not a small thing. I say again, this is not a small thing. Do not underestimate the magnitude and impact with which I am working in you. There is not one of you listening to these words who is in small change. What is happening in your lives is not small. It is not simple and easy and requires a minor adjustment. What is happening in your lives has been ordained of my Father before this world was brought into being, for this day, for this time, for your life. And I have looked with anticipation to this time of your life. For you have not seen, you have not heard, it has not entered into your mind or into your heart, you cannot conceive of what I have planned.

But as a wine skin needs to be made new, as a piece of cloth needs to be made new to receive what is new, so there are areas in your life that I have laid my finger on and have said, I call change! I call a rising up before my Father. By faith I call you by my name, the name of Salvation. And I call you to that salvation in a more real - in a greater way than you have ever known it, understood it or seen it before. I say it again, your eye hasn't seen, your ear has never heard. So take all the things that have been told to you about the wonderful things that God wants to do, and set them aside because your ear has never heard. It has never entered into your finite mind. But I will expand that mind. I will whisper it to your ear. And your eye will see. What is happening in your life now does not pertain to now; it does not pertain to next week or next month. Will you benefit from what I am doing in you now? Yes, you will benefit immediately as you submit and as you yield. But in my focus and in my purpose, and in what I am planning to accomplish, what I am beginning to do, to reveal - the work I wrought in you is not for now. We are entering and in a day that the most holy prophets long to look into. Some of them saw glimpses. Some of them saw pieces. Others I showed segments of pictures. But the things that they tarried and waited before my throne, that they might hear of me, the things they longed for and grieved after and craved and desired, you have been chosen to walk in. You have been chosen to see.

My Father discussed with me and he said, ‘Who can we choose? Who can we send, for they will need to hear me? They will need to understand my heart. They will need to know more than just know of me and think about me, they will need to be in me and flow through me. Who can we choose? Who can we send, for there is so much that weighs on them, my ambassadors, my disciples, my children.’ And we have discussed and I have hand chosen you, and many with you across the face of this world. But as I warned when I was on this earth, I warned. I said be careful, do not fall asleep. Keep your eyes open. Watch. And I am not talking just about your physical eye. I was talking watch in your spirit, you will see far more than you will ever see with your physical eye. For you live in an age of deception. And many times what you see with your physical eye is not real. Watch with your spirit. Let my

Spirit teach you. Let my Spirit show you. For He will reveal things to you your eye has never seen, your ear has never heard and you have never contemplated what He will show you. I have chosen you because I have deemed you faithful. From the inception of my purpose for you I have looked at you and I called by faith before my Father. I called faithful. Faithful. Faithful. And I say it again, for those of you whose concentration strayed, from the inception of your purpose I called before my Father and deemed you Faithful, as I have many across this earth.

But some, too many, are finding themselves trapped in the cares of this life, in dissipation and in intoxication. Intoxication not only with what you would consider intoxicating, but intoxicated with covetousness, with greed, with lust, with desire. Intoxicated with self and plans and goal and career and job and home and properties and lands...intoxicated with this world. And I warned, I warned. And I say it again, I speak it again, I warn. Do not allow the anxieties of life, the cares of this world, the intoxications that surround you to fog your mind...to distract you. For I have deemed you faithful and I am calling your names before the throne of my Father. And I say daily, they will not fail. By faith I call it daily, they will...you will not fail the reason you are on this earth. And I am pleased with your sensitivity. That when even the slightest change takes place in me- in focus and direction, in guidance and in leading - you recognize and listen and respond.

So I take you to a new place. I take you to a place of the generations. I have told you before and I say it again this morning: The generations come before my throne and they cry out, 'How long Lord, for your Word is true. You are Faithful, you are Righteous, you are Holy and you are just, your Promises must be fulfilled in my lineage.' That is what they say to me, that is what they hold before my Father... 'It must be fulfilled in my lineage.' And generation after generation after generation are in agreement and in unity in their family generational circle of dwelling before my throne and they are calling out, 'It must be fulfilled!' And I look to you and I say: It will be fulfilled and it will be done in you and it will be done in those that follow you, for I am true, I cannot fail. And what I have spoken and called into being will live in you for the whole world to see.

So don't fear me. I love you, and I long to have you with me, I long. But my Father has said there is a work that must be done. The rest, and the reward, and the rejoicing will come and will last for eternity, but there is work that must be done in this short period of time and we must not fail. If we fail there will be too many who will not be with us in eternity. We must not fail. And the days are evil and they will try to consume you, so redeem the time. Buy back every moment. Your life cannot proceed as you were raised. Your life cannot go on as you started it, your life cannot continue as you lived it ten years ago, your life must have the time in it redeemed and bought back for my purpose. Do not spend it as you will, for not only you will suffer, but the generations and the purpose of my Father for the end of this age will suffer. Your life is not your own, you have been bought with a price. I came as All Mighty God and I laid my life down for you. There was nothing

in this world that was worthy of my children. There was nothing in this world that was worthy of those that were created to be mine.

I came and laid down Spirit for spirit, Life for life, eternity for eternity. Your time is not your own. And the place where I am taking you, which will unfold before you as a scroll, and it will open and you will begin reading from the bottom to the top, you will begin reading line by line and it will grow and intensify and become closer to the height of completion as you read it up. And what I am showing you is not about you, it's for you. You will be blessed and benefit and reap from it, it's for you, but it's not about you. There is an eternal purpose that my Father has planned, and you are part of it. And my Father's eternal purpose prevails. I have chosen and hand picked you to be part of this last days. I invite you and encourage you, become one with me, draw into me as you have never drawn into me before, make your life my life - surrender all. For the work that needs to be done in this last time will not be in the physical. Read my book. What does my book say happens as the last time begins to be revealed? I have shown you some of it. And as the seal opened in my realm, the physical just responded. As the trumpet was blown in my realm of what I have shown you in my book, the physical just responds. As the thunder claps and as the vial is poured, the primary work will be done in the realm that is the most substantial, it is the spirit realm.

And I have watched over the ages as men and women, by my Spirit, have been brought to and bump up against the spirit realm and they reach into with their arm and they try to pull out and they try to peer through and see what happens in there. But very few are ever allowed in because it was not time. There would be one here, there would be one there, there would be one chosen to step into my realm and to see what is transpiring in the spirit so that they can recognize what is happening in the physical because the physical just responds to the Spirit. And I have watched as others who were not chosen to step in and to touch this have tried to imitate and tried to fake and tried to say what was not for them. And I spoke of them in my book as prophets who peep and mutter. And I said, don't listen to them; they are speaking on their own.

But I am preparing you because the time draweth nigh, the time cometh, it comes, that those who push into me will find themselves pushing into the realms of the Spirit...of the spiritual.

And I warn you, as I speak now, I warn you. Do not become what you have seen others become, and that is haughty and arrogant. Do not become flaky in your dissemination and handling of what the information I give to you. I will be giving you gems and pearls that are and will be spoken of in their proper time. And since you work with a human mind, be sure to find away to record what you see and what you hear so that you may revisit it without losing detail. Because the human mind tends to release information and let it go when it should not. And as you grow in that area of retention and clarity of your mind, and

hearing and receiving and remembering of my Spirit, as you grow - don't lose the things I show you on the way. Because I warn you - in the last times there will be many who will see pieces of the Spirit, but will not have the maturity, will not have the self-discipline to handle the piece they're shown and as a result...will mishandle it. And it will not prosper my cause, and it will not cause them to be looked at as a disciple, as a Bride member. It will cause people to mock and make fun because it's been mishandled. I will speak to you more of these things, of how to handle and what to say and what to do. I will speak to you more of these things as time progresses. Right now I say: guard what I show you. And as you push into me, it is like a veil."

PASTOR VERN:

And folks what I am seeing, I am going to interrupt right here and give you what I am seeing. What I am seeing is a bubble. I don't remember...it is not coming to me right of hand - it is one of those science fiction TV programs/movies where they landed a ship on a foreign planet and there was this transparent bubble there. That they could go up and they could touch and they could reach through, and they could and they eventually walked through it and it went into a whole different thing in the program. I am seeing something that resembles that bubble. And you can push on it, like a big...oh like a great great great great big plastic bag filled with air. You can push on it and it moves and it gives. But as you keep pushing against it.... and it is kind of opaque, clear but opaque, it is not white or brown, it's clear but it's opaque. It's fogged a bit. You can't see through it. And as you push up against it, you see very dimly what is inside and you see images and you see movement, but you can't really make out... you guess at things. That is what I am seeing. So I stop right here and I go back to the prophecy."

PROPHECY RESUMES

"And I will show you as you draw into me. Be sincere with me. Be honest with me. Draw close to me with everything within you. And as you do, your spirit will take on the characteristics of me in the more definite, in a more pure, in a more perfect way than you carry them now. And as your spirit takes it on...your spirit will find itself being able to step across that opaque barrier - and step through, beyond the physical, into that realm. And to begin with, it will be brief glimpses, and then it will become more, and there will be times I will take you into that realm where you will step out of your bodies -as my Word declares - and you will see what you will know and you will understand. And those in your company, those in your company, your regiment, will benefit by what I show you as individuals, because I will give pieces...you are all members of a body. I will give pieces to you and I will give pieces to those who are not part of this body. So keep your ears open and your eyes open so your spirit can hear and receive of them. And I will give pieces to different ones across this earth and different ones across this body and those who are part

of your company. You will benefit as you share and they will benefit you as they reveal and show forth and share what I give them.

This will be greatly accelerated in the last days for it is time. Handle the supernatural with care and respect. I...I admonish you. Never take it on as something that is of you, because you are not of it except the breath I put in you. Never take it on as something that you have become worthy of, or capable to operate in, or you have some 'foreign', 'unknown to those around you' understanding and wisdom and insight of this supernatural realm. You take these things on and you will find yourself going into error and deception with great speed. Handle the supernatural with great care, for it is not the realm you are use to working in, but it is the realm I am going to make you familiar with. And I am going to reveal and teach and show you some things that are so plain in my Word, that to me...it is like seeing it written on the wall, but you have never seen it. You have never seen it. I will show them to you. And as you see them and combine it with the revelation that I will show you of the Spirit, you will operate, you will operate in the physical, yes, and you will see great things happen in the physical.

But I say to you this morning, and I call you to mark the words of this prophet that I speak through, write this down, pay attention to it, for it will verify everything that I have spoken to you this morning. It will confirm that I have been speaking here...write this down. In a very short period of time, you will hear men and women who are of my heart and who can hear my voice, begin to say, in the last times my people will learn how to work in the Spirit and in the Spirit realm. Mark my words. It will verify what I have spoken to you this morning for you are not the only ones that I am speaking to concerning this. So give ear, pay attention. There are many you have access to in many forms of media, give ear to those. For they will begin calling out the cry, 'Body of Christ, child of God, loved one, we must learn how to not just see and recognize the things of the Spirit, we must learn how to step beyond and work in the things of the Spirit and the spirit realm.' This word will begin sweeping across this land, this nation and this world.

The gates and doors to the realm of the spirit which have been closed for centuries, I have taken the keys and I have shown them to my Father and he looked to me and he said, 'Yes it is time. Begin the process.' And I am, as I speak to you in this time, I am handing out the keys to my servants, my messengers, those you would call angels. And I am assigning the gates and the doors and they are to go and unlock and open. It is of the last times and the things of the spirit will become more real than the things of the flesh to those who step in.

Yes, I am high and exalted...and I am the King of Majesty. I am high, far above any word of any note of praise. But hear me, when you step up beside me, if I am high and exalted and you come closer to me, you are exalted also. I said it in my Word this way: humble yourself and in due time I will exalt you. So I just let you see it from a different perspective. I am high and exalted. I am the God of all creation. I do not say that to brag,

that is a fact. It is the truth. There is none like me. And as you step up, you will be exalted. You will step into things that your eye has never seen, your ear has never heard about, you've never conceived and your heart and your mind has never understood. This will separate my bride from this earth. And there will be those who look upon you with awe and wonder, and they will want what you have, that is why I lift you up. So that they can see me and be drawn, for you are the letter...you are the light, you are the salt, you are the epistle that's been written to show men. There will be those that see what I do in you and they will be drawn to me because of my bride. And there will be those who would rather have of the things of the kingdom of darkness who will despise you, who will hate you, who will persecute you and try to destroy you. And don't be surprised if it be those near you who turn on you. I've already warned in my Word. I've already warned, seek it out; study it. I just make reference to it.

But there's no reason to fear. There's no reason to be downhearted. There's no reason to be downcast for I have already spoken, and revealed to the one whom I am speaking through; my bride owns that day. It is for her, it is about her. Everything in heaven and on earth will focus on her and when I raise my hand and I call for the hush to honor her, she owns it. It is about her. I died to give it to her. And as I have already spoken in my word, I will gird myself to serve her. She owns that day. So look forward to where I am taking you with joy and anticipation and excitement. We will walk arm in arm, we will walk hand in hand. And you will walk in me and I will be in you and together we will do great exploits, some of which will manifest in the physical realm, many of which will be done in the realms of the spirit to prevent and to pervade things that should not be. And others will be to enhance and propel that which my enemy will try to hinder. And it will be a secret between me and you. And it will come out plainly on the day of reward. And many will look in and say, 'I never knew, I had no understanding, I didn't realize what God was doing in you. Blessed be the Holy name of the Lord God of Israel.'

So these are precious times, the culmination of many many years, many many decades and centuries of millennia. Everything is coming to focus and culminate on this time. And there are those who are before my throne night and day, day and night (as you would know it and understand it), crying out because their lineage is not in the company. Some of your names have been called this day before my throne saying, 'They have contact, they can help them.' Press into me, come close to me, come into me as you never have, and I will supernaturally make connections, I will supernaturally open opportunities, and I will supernaturally do a work through you. It will not be you, it will be done through you. It will be done for those who are crying out, for those that need me. And it will happen through you and with you. But remember, it's not you. The moment you begin taking credit and thinking 'it's me', you will lose it and will have to start all over to regain the ground you lost. Guard pride, guard pride, guard against pride. It is an enemy from the beginning of when sin was found and conceived and it is an enemy that has grown and grown and grown and it is very large and strong now. It pulls on every human being.

Guard against pride, guard against pride! And oh I look forward to the day when my Father will raise his hand and he will say, ‘Enough!’ And pride and everything of that kingdom will shrink and be absorbed into one spot where it will be held, never to escape again for eternity. But as of this moment, guard your heart, guard your heart. And rejoice!

Do not be weary in well doing for in due time, you will reap. Do not be consumed with this earth and it’s system and it’s ways. Do not be dissipated or do not be mingled with the things of this world and allow your faith and the light in you to dissipate. Keep yourself pure and strong. Keep yourself separated from those things that are not of my Kingdom. For we will walk it in this earth, we will show it in this earth, it will be done in this earth as your eye has never seen, your ear has never heard, your heart has never conceived, your mind has never thought. I look forward with excitement and anticipation to the unfolding story of love in the midst of a hateful, dying age. We will shine and we will bring Glory to my Father. Come with me. Come to where I am. Seek me and you will find me. Come to where I am, and let’s enjoy this time together.”

2006

- 6) “Embrace Mary’s anointing and gifts” (1/2006)
- 7) “Bring the people to me and I will honor you. Bring them to you and I will rip the ministry away from you.” (1/29/2006)
- 8) “Pray for this area like it is your own. For this day I give it to you.” (4/6/06)
- 9) April 26, 2006. The Lord gave this scripture to me.

“As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

I Peter 2:4-5 (NIV)

Then he told me: “He (God) is in the process of re-shuffling his bride. He is gathering her together via pulling her out and away from being scattered. He will bring together and organize and unite her for the revival that is coming. This is why so many are exiting the established church. They are sensing the stirring (that is)

moving in their spirits for more and are seeking/being led out. The home church is just the next step for them. It's part of the transition of where he wants to take them."

10) May 14, 2006 - Prophecy Given At Word Of Life - By: Pastor Vern

"I have gone before my Father this day, and I have prayed for my people. The things of the kingdom are forcefully advancing. The movement of my father on this earth, the pace is quickening, the intensity is rising. The movement is beginning to go in a flow. Great and awesome things lay before you. Great and awesome things are within your grasp. But as I discussed with my Father this morning, as I communed with Him: Many of my people are not ready for what I am about to unleash on this earth. As we spoke about it and I asked my Father, 'Father, what would you have me do with this?' And my father said, 'Speak to your people. Share with them your heart.' So I do that this morning. I do that not only here, I do that many places across this world. I share this in the places where my church, my people, my Bride, where many are struggling and are not ready.

So let me share with you: Our enemy, Lucifer the fallen one, that dragon, that thief, has done what he masters at. He has slipped into deceive and he has deceived. And as a result of that deception, it's not I who has discluded you. It's not I who has counted you not worthy. It is my people who view and see themselves damaged, incapable, not worthy, not good enough. You've been broken and not mended. You've been ill and not healed. My people find themselves in despair with no joy returning. Where there once was hope, too many days there's grief. There was tenacity and perseverance, but it's turned to lethargy and complacency. Even though the Word goes forth, there must be the Life of the Spirit to restore what is broken, to heal, to reinstate.

So why do my people, my Bride, my Holy Righteous Ones...why do they view themselves this way? And I am not saying all...but too many. Why? Because deception has slipped in and deception has slipped in through religion. I despise pretending. I despise pretending and the pretenses and the masks and the fakeness, of portraying one thing but it is not in your heart. You speak it with your lips, but does it flow from your heart?

Who told you you don't measure up? Who told you? Why are you convinced you cannot be anointed? Who spoke to you and said you were not good enough...you were a failure? Who has placed within you...who has placed within you the loss of something good will ever happen in you and in your life? Do you really believe it? Are you constantly looking for it day by day? Or is it a pretense you wear, but your heart no longer believes it? You feel you've gone too far, too much is lost - your life is 'too big a mess' for me to work in you and flow through you. Who told you these things?

I say today , it was and it is the pretenders. Do you serve man or do you serve me? I, your Lord, your Master am the God of this creation! You are my servant, not another mans... not another woman's. If I call you righteous, you are righteous. If my blood speaks forgiveness, you are forgiven. If my lips breathe justification, you are restored and made new. It is my opinion, it is my declaration, it is my legal jurisdiction that declares who and what you are. Not those who pretend to be something but are not. Not those who pretend to know me, but they don't hear my voice, they don't flow with my Spirit, they criticize, they judge, they condemn, they put down, they declare only themselves to be something. I say they are the pretenders and they have deceived my people!

There is no sin so great that I can't forgive. There is nothing so broken that I can't remake. There is no addiction so strong that my Anointing can't dissolve. I am the Lord of Lords. Whatever would master you, whatever would control you, whatever would rule you, I master it, I rule it, I have dominion over it. I am the Lord of all lords. You say, 'But what about the things that I have done? What about the things that have happened? What about the choices that I have made that have led to disaster and trouble and sin?' So I turn the question back to you. What about them? And I give you the answer for my question. That's what my blood was for and is for! Come to me. Let us reason together. Don't hide from me, don't run from me, don't stay at a distance from me because of your own deception, because of your own feelings of worthlessness. Come to me. Let us reason together. He who comes to me I will in no wise cast out, I will not throw you from me. It's the sacrifices of a broken and contrite spirit and heart that are acceptable to me. Come to me without pretense, without fakeness, without hiding what really goes on inside of you. Come to me broken and contrite. And I will accept you and we will reason together, we will communicate, we will discuss, and before I am done - though your sins be as scarlet, they will be white as snow.

You say, 'But I've asked forgiveness of my sins.' Then why does the plague of them remain in your thinking? Why do you see yourself still as a sinner, not worthy, not capable, not good enough, one who doesn't measure up? Why? Because you didn't reason with me. You confessed it and it was forgiven. You laid it on the altar and it was washed clean. But you didn't understand that the cleansing needs to wash your minds and your consciences. Have I not said in My Word that my blood cleanses the consciences of the worshiper? If you will reason with me and be honest with me and tell me what you feel, tell me what you think, tell me what motivated you and what motivates you now, tell me your regrets, lay before me your sorrows, be honest with me about your future and what you see in your future....reason with me, and I will give you answers and I will give you a moving in your minds and in your consciences that will cleanse you and purge you and set you free. For my truth is what makes you free.

So rather than questioning or self condemning, reason with me. Be honest with me. Lay down, lay down the mask of pretending. Lay down the fake ways you handle others, the

fake responses and answers you give to others, the concealing and hiding of what is really going on in your heart. I am looking for a bride who does not act like she is in love with me, I am looking for a bride who is in love with me.

And I said in My Word that I would circumcise your hearts so that you could love me with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. Come and reason with me. Let me cut out of you the deception, the lies, the misunderstandings, the beliefs that are not right. Let me cut out of you the things that are keeping you from walking in power, keeping you from walking in strength, keeping you from walking in faith, keeping you from walking in Anointing, keeping you from walking in Me and My Spirit. Let me cut them out of you and you will find an intimacy begin to grow with Me, you will find a communion and a closeness begin to establish with Me. You will find yourself beginning to love Me like you never thought you could love Me and having a relationship with Me that you never thought was possible.

I am looking for a bride that loves Me with all her heart, soul, mind, and strength. Who has the joy of her Master as her strength. Knowing that all is well, nothing is hidden, nothing is shrouded, all is brought into the light. Having reasoned with me and allowed My Spirit to come upon you and flow through you and wash out of you everything that makes you hesitate, everything that makes you stutter step everything that causes you to pull back when it is time to follow. Because we are walking into a day where the power of My Father will flow freely. It will flow to Me, and from Me it will flow to you. But you must be open and clean to receive it. My blood has made you so. Now you've got to believe it. You've got to believe you are My Righteousness.

And if there is accusation that's laid before you...if it is not laid there by My Spirit who convinces of sin, who convinces of right, and who convinces that the enemy, the devil, is judged - If it is not laid thereby My Spirit, that accusation is not of My Kingdom and you are to resist and destroy it! Not even entertaining the thought of, 'Could they be right?'. Does My Spirit bear witness with your spirit of what they have spoken to you? If it does not, refuse it! For piece after piece, time after time, word after word, thought after thought, implication after implication, has soaked into My people to where they are deceived and they no longer see themselves as I see them. They see themselves as the pretenders have seen them...and they've believed it.

My Father said to me this day, He said, 'With what the enemy has done in your people, the fullness of your blood is being insulted.' He went on to say, 'I know, I am familiar with, I am acquainted with no insult that can remain. For your people not to see themselves in the likeness and the image of what you have restored them to be by your sacrifice and your blood, this lays insult at my feet.' And my Father said, 'My son, I refuse that insult. Take of what is mine. Put it on them and in them. And I will stand with you and it will rest and it will remain there until My people, until your people, until our Creation rises up in who she is made to be.'

So My people I share my heart with you this morning and I come with a promise. So My people I come with a promise! He whom the Son sets free will be free. I say it. So come and let us reason together. Come and allow the Anointing of My Spirit to begin it's work. It will not end today, it will begin today. And I instruct you with all fervency. Every time, every day, every hour, a thought or a feeling of putting down, or condemnation, of failure, of less than, of shame, of giving up, of compromising and going into complacency because of unbelief, thinking it will never happen anyway - Every time it sticks its ugly head up into your thoughts and your feelings, immediately come to Me and say, 'Jesus, I need to reason with you. For there is a deception that is trying to lay hold of me or has laid hold to Me and I need to see it and I need to understand it and I need to be free of it.' This will happen many many many many many times. It's the process of freedom.

For every lie I desire to replace with truth. Every deception I want to replace with what's real. And every faint heart I will replace with boldness and strength and Righteousness that will stand up and will look our enemy in the eye and call those things that are not as though they are. And call the power of life and strength and blessings and grace to live in you and in those around you and in that which you lay hands to. You have been wounded, but I heal. You've been broken, but I mend. You've been cursed, but I bless. You've been cast down, but I lift up. You've been discouraged, but I encourage. You've been fearful, but I make you faithful. You've believed an error, now let us reason together so you may believe truth."

11) Last week of July, 2006.

The Lord told Pastor to buy 40 acres of land to build the church on. When asked why? He said: "My vision is bigger than yours."

12) "Turn the coming judgment into Victory." (8/2/06)

13) September 6, 2006 (Prophecy - Partial)

Praise and Worship opens the doors and gates. It causes the way we are to go - to present itself. Our imagination and fascination is to be on Jesus, not the world. When my people don't praise and worship, they stumble, they fall, they become exhausted, they sit down and there is no forward, no advancement, no movement. Praise and worship opens gates, it lays out paths, it makes roads smooth, it will call into being when there is no place to go. It will lay the road before you.

14) October 14, 2006

How can people who know so much be going so far off?

What is happening is the Hand of the Lord is moving in this nation for a last days revival. With it comes Blessing and Judgment. The people who are holding on to things in their lives that are sin/disobedience are being judged. The result of that is a hardening of their heart. (Taking them into religion and tradition)

The Key: take care of the little things or they will mess up the big picture. “Faithful in little things will be put over many cities.” Jesus said it’s the seeds in our lives that grow into big things. “Little foxes spoil the vines”. Tell the people the basics of scripture and why. ‘Do not train them to respond to the spectacular explanations. They need to do, because it’s right. The spectacular is shown to those who obey, because it’s right.

15) October 17, 2006

Jesus said: “I need a church up here who is willing to take a stand on witchcraft. Are you willing to do it?” I asked what was involved with doing it? He said, “The Kingdom and everything that is involved with the Kingdom manifesting on the earth”. (Scriptures he emphasized: Isaiah 60:1-3, 9b, 21b; 61:3, 9b; 62:3)

16) December 24, 2006.

The Holy Spirit said: “This year the Glory will come. I’m so excited, what you have waited for will come”. ((*)**

2007

17) Emphasis for 2007 and the future of Word of Life:

- Call the Blessing.**
- Pray the Fear of the Lord would rest and manifest.**
- Pray for the Hovering and Brooding of the Spirit.**
- Pray the Hand of the Lord would move.**

18) January 10, 2007 (Prophecy - Jim Isakson - Partial)

“I call forth servant workers from near and far. I call forth the hungry hearts. Come here for the restoration that I have planned. The restoration that that I have planned needs your help. For I am reclaiming my people for a new task and a new vision.”

(19) January 27, 2007 (Afternoon) ((*)**

The Holy Spirit asked: “Would you raise Arianna if you knew it would keep her out of hell”?

The Holy Spirit said: “This is your seed for revival. Are you willing to die to yourself (Luke 14:25-35) for one soul? This is the turning point of your ministry. What you choose here will determine if you’ll be in that revival.”

(Ties into Pastor’s life being after the mold of Moses life)

(20) January 28, 2007 (7:15 AM) ((*)**

Jesus said: “You must take care of this one if you are going to be given more. There are great things in front of you. Great things demand great sacrifice”.

(21) January 28, 2007 (During the morning service) ((*)**

Bob Jones on his video said: What’s “getting ready to take place is being sowed now by the remnant seed. Those who’ve been faithful to Christ and looked towards him, and still believe. There’s been a death take place in their life and an impartation of righteousness, where they become like that seed that’s been planted on the other side of the cross. There’s 2 sides to the cross. One is to die, but the other side is the spirit of holiness, to where we become like a seed and what we raise up will become like that - a holy seed. It’ll have resurrection power in it and will be able to minister out of that, to how many comes to us. There’ll be a multiplication of the seed.”

“Now he’s speaking to the over 50’s. (I was 50 years, 1 month, and 22 days) They must come in now and oversee it, protect it, get behind it, never in front of it. Finance it, motivate it, direct it. Get a vision that your life don’t end at 50. It begins. Holy Spirit is waiting for the Joshua’s to get into place. Old men leading a younger generation.”

7:02 PM - “As you’ve done it unto one of the least of these, you’ve done it unto me.”

(22) May, 2007.

“You need to believe for Eric to come on staff. You’re trying to reach that generation and you don’t even have anyone on staff of that generation.”

(23) June 3, 2007 - Prophecy given at Word of Life - By: Pastor Vern Peltz

"My people you have heard and found the flow of my spirit this morning. And another roll of that scroll which I spoke to you of has opened to you and another portion of what I am revealing is opening as I speak to you by my Spirit. And this is what it says, it says,

“It’s time to refocus. It’s time to refocus.”

You have been taught by your society that life is focused on you. You grew up with that being told to you. You came into adult hood with that being told to you. And over the years you have been formed into the thinking of, 'The decisions I make, the plans I make, the goals I set, the directions I choose to go in life are about me, my life and my future.' This is a deception that has been laid by the enemy for this time.

Now yes, if you look in my word you will see it’s true that sin always tries to turn you inward and away from those around you and away from the needs of the world. It tries to make you look and gaze on yourself only, to where you become the world and it’s all about you. But I give you one level deeper of understanding in this. The baby boomer generation was groomed to be selfish to try to prevent and stop the revival and the move of my Spirit that is coming. There has never been a move of my Spirit on this Earth where someone didn’t have to be in the position of following me and pointing people to me for that revival to appear. Search my Word, see if that is not true. There was always a man or men. There was always a woman or women. There was always people who were looking beyond themselves, looking beyond their personal interest, their personal life. And they became a focal point of what I was going to do on the Earth.

Do not allow the deception that was laid and that was played out so well through technology and through training and through what is so called success, do not allow that to reign in your minds any longer. This day it’s time to refocus. Goals, and plans, and dreams, the path for the remainder of your time on earth, your future, I call you to refocus and start learning, start asking my Spirit, start asking of me to retrain you and reteach you to make decisions on the basis of it’s not me, it’s the generation behind me. What would benefit them the most? What can I hand on, what can I pass on that will set them in a position that will place them to accept and receive and flow in an anointing that will open them to operate in the true godly kingdom of the supernatural that will prefer them above me.

Refocus my people, refocus.

And as you've already heard and it's been given to you it will be the older ones who I will use in this coming move, for the harvest will be so great and it will be so overwhelming in the areas of need, that I will need those who are fathers and mothers in the faith, who are established in their spiritual life. They have matured and grown and become people who know how to face down the needs of this Earth, the lack and the curse of the demonic kingdom of this Earth. They will know how to meet it eye to eye and not flinch, because they've learned to live in it, they've learned to flow in it, it's operated in their life. They will need to be in position for this harvest to be brought in and not lost because with this harvest there will be demonic like this Earth has never seen. There will be broken, and torn, and twisted and maimed minds and emotions as this Earth has never seen. People who will need literally their physical brain remade to be able to get up and be a disciple of mine.

But, oh, I have good news. When I hung on the cross, I saw this day. I saw the days, and the months and the years coming. And when I told my father, "it is finished", in my heart, I knew everything that was needed to save this Earth had been secured and the path, the opening, the spiritual gate and flow to my people to give them anything and everything they needed to overcome and to see those that are brought into the kingdom healed, and delivered, and set free, and restored, and recreated and remade to see whatever is necessary to form and make a disciple. When I hung on the cross, I saw it was finished, it was done, it was bought, it was paid for. And for the joy set before me, I as the Creator and the God of this universe humbled myself and allowed the creation to crush and wound and what they thought kill the Creator. Why did I do that? For the souls of my creation. For the revivals of past. But I speak to you now in this time for the harvest and the revival that is coming. I will be victorious. I will reign supreme. My Father will be exalted. And every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that I am Lord, that I am Master, that I am Creator and it's not going to be for my benefit it will be for the creations benefit that these things take place. I had it all because I am all. It was not for my benefit. I laid my benefit and life down for the benefit of my creation.

You are entering into a day which will demand more than you are capable of giving. That is why I gave you my Spirit. You are entering into a time that will demand more than you are able to minister. That is why I gave you of my anointing. You are entering into a day that will be very very very supernatural. I repeat that. I don't want you to miss it. You are entering into an age, into a time, into a phase of this Earth's history that will be very, very, very supernatural.

If there is one thing that I could request that you hand on and prepare in your heart, because you can't give what you haven't received, but what you have received I am asking you to freely give. If there is one thing that I could request that you go after with all your

heart, soul, mind and strength, to mature and develop in you so that it can be planted in this coming generation, is the wisdom of my Father in all areas. In the realms of the spirit, in the realms of the physical and all, all sub categories that you would categorize in your mind underneath those realms.

Money will not save this next generation. Your society has become a money focused society and the god of this world has endeavored to train your society to believe, with enough money you can fix anything. And the exact opposite is true, the love of money is the root of all evil. You start seeking it, you start playing your life out in such a way that money becomes the focus, evil will move into your life as you have never seen and it will eat you and rot you and destroy you from the inside out. And you will come to the end of your term of service on this earth and you will look back and you will see that the very thing that you thought would answer all your problems became the thing that destroyed you. Money will not be this next harvest's source. Will money be needed? Yes.

I have said it in my word over and over and over again. Wisdom is supreme. Though you have to abandon and let go of everything else, seek wisdom, seek understanding. Find what I do, and learn how to do it like me. That is wisdom. Find what I do. And learn how to do it like me, as I said in my word be an imitator of me. That is wisdom. And as I had walked on this Earth, and there was a mighty move of the Spirit of my father, I will walk this earth again in the days coming, and I will walk it through you and there will be a mighty move of my Spirit. But the example I set you need to follow. I did nothing except what the father showed me and as he worked, I worked. Find what I do and the way I do it and imitate me. Hence that, discipline yourself in that in yourself and hand that on to this next generation.

I am not done with this Earth yet, and my time on this earth is not finished. And I swear to you this day on none greater than can be sworn by, myself and my word, as my Father swore and is recorded in my word. I swear on the same basis this day on my existence and on the word that comes out of my mouth because there is none greater that can be sworn by. You have seen nothing yet. I will manifest myself on this Earth, and I will display the splendor and the glory of my realm and every every every living human being will know who is God. And I grieve to think not everyone will choose me, but they will know who is God. I have invited you, I have invited you to be part of that splendor and of that glory. It is time to refocus. It's not going to be what I can do in your life that is going to become the dominating focus of your future, it's going to be what I can do in those following you. I speak this - this day, I release this on this day, and he who has ears let him hear."

(24) June 30, 2007 (Dream - Felecia Frey) - Jehovah is coming.

A visitation of the Father is coming to this earth. He wants to meet the pope. (The pope represented the next generation)

(25) September 9, 2007 (Prophecy)

Doreen Samsa.

"I have chosen you. I have chosen to work through you. I have chosen those who are longing for me, who are willing to lay down their life, who are willing to lay down their desires, who are willing to lay down their flesh, that calls out so loudly, to follow after me. And I am longing my people, I am longing my people to pour out the revival upon you.

I have seen the desire of your heart, I have seen the longing of your soul, I have seen the beating down of your flesh to say, "God here I am use me. Work through me. Flow through me." Because there is a lost world, there is a lost world out there and I need them to come to me and it will be moved through you. My Spirit will move through you, it will flow through you. You will speak words of life you will speak words in ways that you have never spoken before, but it is through you, it is through you that I will go through. I cannot do it, but I need an instrument. I need a tool that I must work through. It must flow through you my people. It must go through you, through your spirit that it is through my Spirit that flows through you to speak to those that are lost, that are hungry, that are waiting, they're longing to hear my truth, they're longing to hear my Spirit, they're wanting to walk in my ways. Through you."

Pastor Vern

So I stand before you and I say choose,I stand before you and I say choose. So I say it again. It is time to refocus. My people I say choose it is time to refocus and to grow and to mature and to become more like me. This life is bigger than your desires, than your opinions, than your plans, than what you want. This life is bigger than what you like to hear or what you don't like to hear, what you like to do, what you'd rather not do, this life is bigger than you.

This life is about me and those I died for. And yes you are one of them. But now I call - grow and mature and release the childish thinking. Step up to a more mature love where it

causes change in you, it causes change in your life, it causes you to refocus, it causes you to pay attention to those around you, and it causes you to be willing to make sacrifices of yourself and your time and your thinking and your plans to be of assistance to them rather than thinking all of life is here to assist you.

This church is not here to assist the mature. This church is here for a place for the mature to minister through and assist those who are sick and weak and dying and immature and lost. I call you to refocus again. I call you to refocus again. It's not about what this church or this community or this God can do for me, it needs to become what can I do for this church, this community and my God.

You call out for revival and I hear you. And I believe your call is sincere and it's real and it's true. However, it is not dropping into your heart and changing your choices and your decisions and your behaviors. If you really crave for revival, if you really crave for a moving of my spirit this question must surface: What can I do for my church, what can I do for my community, what can I do for my God? I can't give revival on a schedule. I refuse to be tied to human limitation. When my spirit moves he will move where he will as the wind blows where it will and you don't put him on a schedule. You don't put him on a shelf and say next week, this week is my week. I refuse to be tied to human limitation. I refuse to kneel and bow before the restraints and the standards and the guidelines that have been set in this earthly system. I call them to bow and kneel before me. Those are the people and those are the churches that will receive revival.

When my people say I choose not to go to service because it's been going a little too long, have you ever thought maybe I prompted that to reveal your heart to you? Have you ever thought maybe it was a test of you? More even than the words and the message that was being spoken it was a test of your heart? Am I really your master? Or am I master as long as I fit your schedule? Am I really the ruler and the sovereign of your life? Or am I only the ruler and sovereign of your life when you want blessing? And when it comes to change and becoming more like me and dropping off the things of this world and the the things of sin and taking on righteousness and holiness, I no longer fit to be your ruler and your sovereign. Behold I stand before you and I say choose. I hear your lip service, but I am looking for it to come from the heart.

There is only one thing standing between you and the move of the Spirit that you're asking for. That one thing is the sincerity of your heart. The time for the moving of my Spirit has come. The momentum, the power builds and begins to flow as the storm in the summer begins to brew on the horizon. The time for rain has come. And there are so many of my people who with their lips say they want to be part of that, but their heart is not close to me. They persist in their old habits, they persist in their old mind sets, they persist in their old motivations, they persist in life without change. Can you look back on the last six months and say my God has changed me. If not you are no longer growing. And you will

not stay in that position long. And you'll begin dying. Can you look back to the end of last summer and say God did this in me and God showed me that and God changed this in my heart. And God has been working on me and I'm not the same person I was back then. If the answer to that is not, it's no, it's not happening, with all the love and with all the concern and with all the compassion of my heart I say to you: you're not ready for revival.

So I stand before you and I say behold, choose, choose who will be God. Are you going to be God of your life? Or am I? Will you be the one who runs your life? Or are you diligently seeking my face? My people keep calling out for revival. You're living in a dry and arid, a desert and thirsty land. Keep calling but then choose to conform your heart to what you are saying. My people make the choice and follow through. Truly become my disciple."

(26) November 14, 2007 - Prophecy given by Pastor Vern Peltz

"I am calling for a dividing on this earth! I am calling for a dividing of the true worshipers to be divided out. This will be done through worship. This dividing will take place through worship. This is what I, your God, your Creator, your Designer, look for in worship! As my Word says, it's been referred to, I refer to it again: You must worship me in Spirit and in Truth! If you will truly let go and become involved in your spirit - your soul and your flesh will follow what your spirit is leading you to. But you must give yourself over to worship. Withholding, holding back and restraining won't take you there. You must give yourself over, and allow your spirit to become free and simply express itself to me. And you will find words coming out of your mouth - you will find your body actions - to simply follow in with what is happening inside of you. The words don't come first in 'Spirit Worship', the body actions are not decided first in 'Spirit Worship'. They are following after, as your spirit expresses itself to me - as you've given yourself over to me...in adoration and expression.

Let me share with you something that is misunderstood. I am not impressed with abilities. I am the God who has created all abilities. And when someone functions in their God given ability, it does not impress me because I gave it to them, they should function in it. But I am impressed with a spirit that will reach out and break past the dark inhibitions around it in this world, and will submit to and enter into the anointing of praise and worship and allow true expression to come to me. True adoration, true exultation, true gratitude. If you could see it from my side: it is as a light cutting through and splitting open the darkness. And the anointing comes through to my throne. That impresses me. You say, 'Why would that impress you?' Because that only takes place as a "free will" chooses to enter in. What comes from your lips does not impress me unless it comes from your heart. As it flows from your spirit out of your heart, the anointing will build with that and literally, the darkness is

repelled back by the light. And as you focus that light, it shoots out of you as a shaft - literally cutting and breaking apart the darkness where it shoots through. That impresses me. That is what I look for in worship.

So as I call a dividing, there will many who you would never suspect who will find true worship and praise and give themselves to me in it. And then there will be those who you would never suspect...will resist it - for fear, for pride, they will resist it. The move of my Spirit on this earth is joined to and married with true praise and worship.

(27) November 23, 2007 (9:50 PM) (())**

Jesus said: “The revival has begun. You will see what I will do for your sacrifice.” He quoted John 15:13 and keyed on the word “Life” (Psuche). He said: “You did it for people you don’t even know - who are not even your friends. One life for many. Look at what I did (how many were affected) by one life.”

2008

28) “Do what you can to mature the saints. Harvest is coming.” (4/16/08)

29) June 3, 2008 - “You are going to be a Regional Church. You will pull people from the Region.” (Also ‘Open Heaven Mtgs. - 2009)

30) June 15, 2008 - Father’s day weekend. Our first true Revival Outbreak at the church.

31) June 24, 2008 - Word for Pastor Vern.

“I have the church building taken care of. It’s on its way. You planted much seed for it. The seed has been growing for a long time. Watch me work. You’ll be amazed.”

32) Summerfest - 2008. (7/13/08)

“Don’t despise the wind. This weekend I have given you a living picture of what I’m doing and going to do. People are caught in hot, desperate, to the point it’s difficult to breathe type of situations. I will hit them like a violent storm/wind. (Isaiah 54:2-3 > 1986-87) (Prophecy of 9/9/07 > Page 4 - Bottom) I will break into their enclosures. They will try to

hold me out but I will break in. I will shake them and the rain will fall. I'll drench them. They be soaked. And I will blow on them, and I'll blow and I'll continue to blow. Just like the wind this weekend. I'm showing you what I'm doing and about to do. Don't despise the wind."

It was the third day of the wind. '3' > "Solid, real, substantial, complete, entire, to conform"

33) August 2-10, 2008. Break-Through meetings at Word of Life.

34) August 5, 2008 - Prophecy - Pastor Vern

"I, The Spirit of the Living God have asked for a 'voice' this night. I am sent and I carry the position, I carry the office of speaking for The Savior and doing His bidding. This night I have asked Jesus the Christ if I could speak freely and share of My heart with you. Which He and I are One, it is a reflection of His heart also, but He's granted Me the freedom to articulate what We crave for you and for this world.

Let Me share My heart with you, and let Me start by saying: I am so excited! I am so filled with anticipation! I am so overjoyed! Ecstatic! For you are learning to follow Me. So many, so many, so many never learn! They never learn to follow me. But you're pushing into Me. You're learning to get in step with Me. You're becoming sensitive to Me and I am so excited! Father, they are following! Father thank you for this day! They are following me!

Now I say to you our people, and what I'm about to say do not take lightly, do not take lightly. There is a war that is set in place and is raging and is intensifying...and it's after the children. The enemy it out to destroy the next generations.

You were warned. You were warned in my book that in the end times things would grow serious and wicked and dire. You were warned the denial of the Power would begin to take precedence in the church. And by the "church", I speak of all those people who name themselves by The Christ. They call themselves "Christians". They name themselves according to the Anointing and The Power and they call themselves "Christ-ians": Of The Anointing, Of The Power. But the deception would grow so thick that they would literally deny the Power they name themselves after.

When the Power is denied, I am severely limited and hampered. We are entering into a time where satan, the fallen one, will do everything and step up the pace and wickedness will increase, because the hearts of men will follow after him in their sin. And **he will quicken his work to destroy the succession of the generations who serve the Living God.**

Why? He sees his days are numbered and if he's going to accomplish something, he's going to have to do it quickly. So the war is hot and furious around you. And my servant spoke correctly earlier when he said that there are angels who have been placed to guard. They are worship angels who have been placed to guard this Anointing, because **there are so many who have come and who have left this area...and it is disaster in the Spirit realm. It is disaster! People are being destroyed, souls are being lost because the Anointing and the Power was not guarded.**

Thank you for asking me and giving me the right to guard what we are trying to accomplish in this area. And it is not all about you. You are a tool, you are a vessel in my Father's hand that is dead and lifeless and accomplishes very little until that tool and vessel itself surrenders to the Power of the Living God. **That is My authority and position. I have been granted the right and ability to fulfill and wield the Scripture and the Promise and cause it to come to life.** Thank you! Oh we have far to go yet... but thank you. **Guard and treat as a Holy and Precious thing...My freedom among you.** We are in and we have quickly gone into a dispensation of time on this earth where your good intentions, where human effort, where man-made programs and good ideas, where the purposes and plans of the hearts of men, no matter how noble they may seem to be; we have entered into a dispensation and an age where these will not produce Godliness on this earth.

This earth is needing a display of the raw Power of my Father and I wield that Power through you! Do not be satisfied, **do not be content for the way it used to work. Because it won't work that way anymore.** We are living in a time where wickedness is increasing, but I have good news for you! Where wickedness abounds, My grace, My favor also abounds and the standard is raised! But with the raising of the standard, New! New! New comes! **I need a people who are willing to wield the raw, invincible, unconquerable, unfading power of Almighty God. It will bring this generation in,** it will give hope where there was no hope! It will bring life where death seems to rule and reign! It will resurrect from the dead. Seek the Christ and His Anointing. Seek the gifts that are available. Seek the Lord's will and submit to it with everything within you.

You have stepped across the thresh-hold. Now keep walking. **Learn to get in step with me to where it becomes unconscious event.** And as My Power and My Anointing is allowed to flow, I will renovate your life. I will renovate your family. I will renovate this church. I will renovate this community. I will renovate this region. And I will renovate on into this nation and around this world through you. **Do not belittle what you have been created to be. Do not think less of who and what my father has designed you to be. You carry an important**

position in these days. And literally life and death for this community and much of this region is in the hands of a few - and you are part of that few. I speak to the generations: I want to live and move and speak and literally breathe through you. That's why I'm in you. That's why I'm on you.

Now what I did in what you call 'last evening', what I did here, my desire, my heart remains in position, in place. You witnessed a facet of the raw power of the Living God. There is so much counterfeit. There is so much deception. There is so much perversion of the genuine and the real. My Father created the genuine and the real in and this world has been intoxicated with the counterfeit and the deceptive, and the perverted. I am the God of Joy and Laughter! Heaven is a loud place, read in My Word! Oh yes, we have times of quiet and silence, but you will find heaven is a joyful place! We are a joyful God! If it were not for the entrance of sin, and the travail, and the necessity, the urgency to save eternal souls...if it were not for that, there would not be a moment of grief or sadness or depression or discouragement or loss of hope. Any of those things...there will be none! We are a God of triumphant, exuberant, awesome and glorious joy! We know how to throw a party! We know how to throw a party! The evil one has come and deceived so many into believing 'partying' is of him. He doesn't have a clue how to throw a party because everything he does damages and destroys lives. Even in the middle of what he calls 'merry-making'. When We throw a party it produces nothing but LIFE and JOY and PEACE and more of Us in them and in you! If you're looking for an exciting, a mind blowing, a high that is ultimate...you press into Me - The Spirit of the Living God. You press into me! It was read even this night: It is the will of my Father for you to be stimulated and intoxicated...overwhelmed by me! Love, joy, peace, gentleness, patience, self-control, and faithfulness. Break free of traditions of man! You heard my heart spoken from the Word of Almighty God!

The reason I anoint is so that the gospel can be preached to the poor. So the brokenhearted can be healed. So prisoners can be set free. So sight can be recovered. So the oppressed can be released. And I declare this is the day I want to do these things! Now is the time! Press into me!

I don't think like you think! I don't operate like you think! I am above you as the heavens are above the earth and I will choose ways to set you free that may seem odd to you, that you may look at and they may seem strange to you human thinking. Remember, your human mind has been polluted. Everything in this world has been touched with sin and the power of darkness. How do you expect to think like me? Don't question! Don't criticize! See if it's in the Word and step into Me! Press into Me!

I accomplished more in a few of your minutes last night than men can accomplish in a lifetime and change. **The raw Power of the Almighty God is here for you and I am excited! I am excited! I am excited! I say it again, I have found a people who will follow me! And I**

am excited! Oh Father I am excited! I have found a people! There is life! There is hope! This area will change! This area will change! This area will change! This area will change! Glory be to the God most high!"

35) I had been asking why the movement of the Spirit was happening in Bursts, and then it would settle back down again. He said: "This is Reproducible" (8/12/08)

36) August 21, 2008 - We purchase 35 acres of land. (The other 5 acres is in waiting)

37) December 14, 2008

A vision via one of the Covenant Partners. It revealed the 4 giant Angels that have been placed on the property to spiritually protect and guard the church. Also that there was an opening into the heavens above the church. Also guarded by 4 angels. They would open and close the opening in conjunction to our worship. As we worship a gold liquid drips like honey down through the opening above the church. (Compare to John Paul Jackson video "The Perfect Storm" which was shown at W/L on December 27, 2009) The greater the worship, the larger the opening grows, and the more golden liquid (The Glory) the drips.

Statement was also made: "Ignorance and Unbelief are the catalyst for failure".

2009

38) January 3-25, 2009 - The first 'Open Heaven' meetings at W/L. We established a permanent 'Open Heaven' over the church.

39) Spring, 2009 - Unity in W/L was stressed very strongly by the Spirit.

40) March 28, 2009 (A Word)

The Lord asks our permission to deal with the flooding in the Red River Valley in a specific manner. He is showing us our position of ruling and reigning the region. We are to start thinking like we are over this region. This identified the Red River Valley as part of our region.

41) April, 2009 - The Lord tells us to go and set the boundaries for the region.

42) May 16, 2009 - Prophecy Given by: Pastor Vern Peltz

“My people I am so pleased. I am so excited to not only be with you but to speak to you this way! My Father and I have looked forward with anticipation for you to arrive at this point. It was not long ago I asked you to run with me. I asked you to run with me and the directness - the fortitude - the intensity with which many of you have put yourself into....that desire moves us, it moves us. We’ve asked that our people love us with all their heart, soul, mind and strength, and so few do, so few do. But we love you with everything within us and when you respond it so moves us. We are so thrilled. We are so thrilled. Press into Me without hesitation. Once you know it’s of Me, you know it’s of my Spirit, do not hesitate! Run into it with force and strength and vigor and power. Follow Me and press into Me with abandon, abandoning your thoughts, your earthly ways, your earthly thinking, your earthly habits, abandoning the ways of the flesh, abandoning any earthly traditions. Abandon it and press into me! Press into Me with everything that is within you.

For that is how you cross over from merely doing ritual and tradition in the physical and moving over into flowing in the Spirit, entering into my realm, entering into the realm of your authority and your kingdom, entering into the realm of the Anointing that is for you and the power that is to come on you and the Glory that is to shine over you. It only comes by seeking me and pursuing me with everything in you. Anything less will cut you short, you will not enter in.

What took place a number of days ago with the imparting of vision is not an end, it’s the beginning it’s the means to something I have called you to. Do not look at it lightly; do not take it lightly for we have watched you and we have counted enough of you faithful enough and growing in faithfulness enough to take you into an area that few of my people ever enter. This is Holy ground. This is nothing to be taken lightly. This is to be highly esteemed.

This is the beginning of what is for you but it’s not about you. This is the beginning of a flow of a moving of my Spirit that I intend to pass on to those after you. Remember. Remember I’ve told you over and over what I’m about to do in this earth is about the generations. And I have called those of you who are more advanced in age to place your focus and your intensity on those who follow you. And I reiterate and reinstate that call again this evening. The focus has to shift. The desires must change. Too many of my people miss what I’m trying to do in this earth because they’re looking for something that will please them rather than seeing the flow and the intent and the purpose over the span of time that pleases Me. They back away from moves of my Spirit, they back away from facets of how my Spirit would work in them. They back away from the supernatural, because it doesn’t please or fit or feel right to them.

Let me restate, this isn't about you. My Father has a plan to save and rescue whosoever will come to Him. You've already come. It's no longer about you. You're my servants, you're my vessels, you're my friends, you're the light, you're the salt, you are the epistles that are to be read by those who still need to come to me. Do not be so self serving that you back away from what I am trying to do because it doesn't fit your thinking and it doesn't please you. I am pleading with you; there are eternal souls that hang in the balance that will be determined by the attitude of your heart. I have done all I can. I am speaking to you. I am pulling on you.

I am leading you and I am asking you to respond and follow me with abandonment. My servant David followed me with abandonment. And what I asked him to do he did it with everything within him. One of the negative results of that is it brought criticism and persecution. If you follow my scripture through you will find anytime my people follow me with abandonment there will be those who will criticize, mock and not like what is going on. It is not of my Father's Kingdom they speak, but it is of the Devil, the father of lies, that they speak. Pay them no mind. Do not make your decisions on the basis of them and on the input they give you.

Once you have found the heart of My Spirit, once you see in the Word the clarity and the accuracy of where My Spirit is leading you, follow me with abandonment. Though none be for me, yet I will follow. Who do you think gave those words to be penned and into a song? It was my encouragement to you the human race to decide to follow me. Putting the work of the cross and all the cross stands [for] before you and what you seek after and the prize and the goal you strain for, and putting the things of this age and this system and this world behind you. And if none go with you set your face as flint and follow me. Follow me.

I am taking you back to something I referred to some time ago and said I would come and speak to you about again. And it deals with operating in the realms of the Spirit. I told you that more work would be done in the Spirit realm than would be done in the physical realm because the physical realm merely responds to what is taking place in the Spirit realm. That is why my enemy endeavors to completely shut and close the Spirit realm of this world to my influence. Because if he can close the heavens so that my people cannot access me... what goes on in the Spirit realm will eventually appear in the physical. Search my Word it's all there. I have told you, I told you before, the greatest work that will be accomplished will begin in the Spirit realm then it will play out in the physical.

The closer it comes in time to the revelation of me to this earth, and the things written in my book of how that period will play out, the closer it comes to that period of time the more intense it will grow in the realms of the Spirit. And once that time comes, read the book, everything takes place in the heavens before it happens in the earth. The earth is merely a mirror and a reflection of what has taken place in the Spirit realm and I am

calling you to begin working in that realm. I told you I would teach you of it, I told you a time is coming when I would speak to you on how to handle it, what to say, what to do and when. So tonight I take you a little bit deeper and I unroll the scroll another line or two more for you to read and see and understand. As I told you before it will open before you as a scroll, line by line you will see it.

The transferring of Anointing and the Gift of Vision that was given to some and imparted on some a few days ago is a primary tool that I will use you to work in the realms of the Spirit. You must have this Gift, you must operate in this Anointing... for I have asked you to work and rule and reign in an area bigger than you can physically see or occupy.

Remember, I told you quite some time ago, I give you the North. And as year by year has gone by the revelation of this has opened and you're seeing a little bit more and a little bit more and a little bit more. Remember, my vision is bigger than yours. I am seeing the end from the beginning you're only seeing slivers as I reveal them to you. I have now made it known to you that I have chosen you, and you are not the only ones, so guard haughtiness, guard arrogance, guard pride. You're my servants, but I have said that I have chosen you to work in an area, in a region as you call it. You cannot do this in the physical. It is not possible. You are limited to one space, one area and one realm around you if you remain in the physical only. But see, My Spirit, My Spirit has no limits, My Spirit has no bounds. My Spirit knows all, is above all, works through all and sees all. And when you enter into My Spirit, you will find there are no limits in the realm of the Spirit; that's where things begin to become possible in all situations. To truly occupy and fill and call what I've asked you to do you will need to learn to step into the realms of the Spirit. A very few of you understand what I'm talking about. A very few of you have already done it. But I am calling before my Father that this number grows. So I'm calling for more.

So let me stop that thought right here and share a concern with you that's in my heart. And I put it in question form for your sake not mine.

Why is it when things of the Spirit begin manifesting and taking place, that in your human understanding you may not fully understand, you may not have revelation on yet, you may not comprehend fully yet, you don't see it as I see it, you haven't operated in it yet, it's strange to you, it's foreign to you - why is it when these things appear, rather than running to my Word and pursuing truth and finding the revelation of what is happening so you can grow in it, rather than doing that, many of my people, and (I'm not just speaking of this segment within my hearing this night I'm speaking of my body around this nation and somewhat around this world), many of my People, when they don't understand something... rather than jumping in and pursuing me and checking it out in what the Word I've already given you, will withdraw, make excuses and literally grow colder in their spirit

towards me? Why would you allow your heart to harden when I'm offering you something that can renovate not only your life but your whole realm?

So I offer a Word, a Word of warning. And I am not pronouncing this; I am just speaking from my heart. There will always be some who will do this. But I am personally hand picking and selecting from this area the people who will come and be part of what I'm doing in this Anointing and in this flow, in this portion of My Church, who will step up, step in and follow Me with abandonment. Pursue Me with everything that is within them not looking, not looking for the things that man highly esteems, but be diligent to study and seek My Word to lay hold to the things I highly esteem.

I am building something and what I am calling and what my intention is in this group of people in this body, I am building something that will span decades and generations should my coming tarry. And my Father knows when I will come, but I am building something that will remain. Even in your understanding of building, if you quickly throw something up of soft, pliable easily handled manageable materials, it will not last. But if you take time and dig the foundation right and lay the foundation well and when you start building the building on top of that foundation you use materials that have strength, that have rigidity, that have longevity, much harder to craft, much harder to form, much more difficult to cause to take the shape you're after, if you will take the time to build that type of building it will stand there for decades and with a little care it can stand there much longer. Don't be overly concerned at this point that huge numbers of people are not being saved yet in this organization. You're not ready for that yet. You don't call people to come and inhabit the house and learn the ways of the master before the house is built. Even in the physical they don't give you a certificate of occupancy until it's occupiable. I am still laying stones and building walls. For what is laid at the beginning will determine the end. It is much easier to do it right the first time then go back in tear it down and build it over and tear it down and build it over and tear it down and build it over. I am choosing to do this so that it does not need to be torn down and built over. So be patient. Follow My Spirit. Follow Me in this.

The harvest is great and the laborers are few. But let me add one thing behind that, a baby is not placed in an empty half built building and expected to live and mature and grow. When I give babies to this building it will be ready to mature them and grow them and as it takes place adjustments will be needed over the course of time but I am determined, the time is too short to keep rebuilding, I am determined to lay the foundation of My people, the stones of My Church for this area in a way that they will reproduce themselves... so that year after year, decade after decade, generation after generation it never needs rebuilding. So just follow Me. Your days of harvest are coming and oh they will be glorious! But I will not gather a group and put them into something that is not ready for them.

So as I was saying, I am hand picking and hand choosing and hand appointing those who are going to be put into this building and it's not just for them. It's for those who follow them.

This will call for maturity and growth. This flies in the face of the spirit of this age. But this is necessary to rescue the generations to come. For the quality and the characteristic and attribute of faithfulness is quickly fading in this land. Each year that goes by, more and more do not understand what it means to remain steadfast, faithful, laying hold to what my Spirit has told them and not turning away from it for any reason; total abandonment to me. Many, many are growing dimmer and weaker in that area. And the only way I can counter that is to create a people who will stand in the face of adversity, who will stand in the face of persecution, who will stand when onslaught comes against them and most of all they will clothe themselves with the armor and they will face the spirit realm and the rulers and the princes and the powers of darkness and they will stand; and having done all they will remain faithful to stand.

This must be taught to the generations or it will be lost.

So those of you in the sound of my voice who, in your spirit, you already know where your appointment lies, just recognize this was not done by circumstance, happenstance or coincidence - you were chosen by me. Some of you say, "Why? Fill us in." A piece at a time, line upon line precept upon precept, I will.

Now entering into the realms of the Spirit and operating in the realms of the spiritual, now you're speaking the language of my Kingdom. This is a whole different way of thinking than the "me" and "mine" kind of thinking that is outside my Kingdom. Kingdoms are large. Even in the earthly realm Kingdoms are large. They're not a few acres of property; they're not a few miles of area. Kingdoms are large. When I say the "me" and "mine" type of thinking deals with the small, the finite, the little things: your life, your job, your personal sphere of influence, your local community, your local friends and relatives; that's the "me" and "my" thinking and when you get into that thinking all of your processes revolve around me and mine. And I am not condemning anyone. If you recognize that, good. Now I give you the opportunity to grow past it. It's where you start. But I'm calling for those who will not end there. I'm calling for those who will step into the realms of My Kingdom. My Kingdom covers this earth. And when you establish and maintain Open Heavens you are not bound by space, by time; there are no limitations as you understand it. You can call and have jurisdiction over events and situations and things that are not physically anywhere near you or even in your present time. It's the realms of my kingdom. The thinking in that realm is much, much different than the average child of mine thinks in.

So I call you to take care of, establish and settle the area of your life that is involved with the "me" and "mine". Some of you think once I get my marriage, once I get my children, once I get my finances, once I get out of my debt, once I get my health, once I get these things taken care of - then I will have achieved. No. Then you will first be in the place to enter into the realms of the Kingdom and rule and reign. Before you deal with those things which are bought, paid for, given to you as a right, an inheritance of mine that I give to you; once you establish those, now the enemy has nothing to distract you with any longer.

See operating and flowing in a peaceful marriage, in a Godly family, in a healthy body, in sufficient finances, in peace and wisdom and foresight and I could just keep listing, but to operate in these that deal with me and mine, it is not the end accomplishment. It's in covenant. It's expected. View it this way, it's not something for you to attain it is something for you to make a lifestyle. Live it. It's freely given because it's been fully bought and paid for.

So overcome the hindrances. Become victorious in the areas that keep you bound and chained down. The sooner you deal with those realms, and conquer them, the sooner you will begin to live in the fullness of what my covenant has bought for you. Now from my perspective that makes it much easier for you to operate in the realms of the Kingdom. Because when you step into the realms of the Spirit and start literally reigning and ruling and working over spiritual forces, kingdoms, demonic strongholds, curses, sins of the generations and begin crushing these things, shoving them out of the way so the Heavens can open to the people and they can experience me, I kid you not, my enemy, the ruler of the power of this age this system, will do everything in his power to distract you and throw you off to stop you. To get you back into the me and my realm and get you out of his realm. The more access he has to you, the more handles you have sticking out of your life that are not dealt with yet the easier it will be for him to grab something put your life into such a turmoil, shake you so completely that you will be struggling to survive much less walking in victory in the realms of the Spirit and in My Kingdom ruling and reigning. So you must close that off to him. You don't have the rest of your life to achieve this or you will never enter into the realms of my Spirit and my Kingdom. Deal with it. Deal with it now. Deal with it now. Put your shoulder to the harness and pull with all your might and bring some of these things to an end in your life. Finish it. For it is already finished.

The Anointing and the Gift of Vision which has been released and will be released over and over, (there will be times it will be released and no one has laid a hand because it is part of the Anointing that this ministry flows in), this Anointing, this tool will be used greatly for those of you who follow Me with abandonment and learn to step into the realms of my Kingdom into the realms of the Spirit for I will show you things that you would physically not see. I will give you insight into cities, into people, into governments, into injustices that have been done that bind up areas and tribes. I will show you. You will see it like you were standing there. No matter how far away it is. There will be times some of you will stand

there and I will use what my Word speaks of and supernaturally take you to the place and let you see what you need to see. I am calling you to the halls the corridors of victory. I am calling you to the halls and the corridors of victory that lead to my dwelling place. I know no defeat. Let that get into your spirit. I am above all, I am over all, I rule over all, I have come out of death, hell and the grave victorious. Sin has no hold on me. I know no defeat. I called you and welcome you into an arena that will change this part of my world. (breathy whew) The excitement. The anticipation. The joy. Remember I told you My servants, as you would refer to as angels, my servants have been given the keys to unlock the doors and the gates of areas that have been held shut for millennia. That has already begun.

But I did not give this world to my heavenly servants to rule. I gave it to the physical human race to rule. And I added onto that when I came and walked this earth and died and rose from the dead, I added onto that physical ruler ship, what was given from the beginning, I added onto that the fact that I saw the devil fall from heaven as lightning. He is under your foot and his realm, his domain is under your jurisdiction. You have been given authority to tread on serpents and scorpions and have power over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you. So I've given you authority not only to rule in the physical I've given you authority to rule over the realm of the spiritual that is opposed to me. So rise up in what you've been granted."

Pastor Vern.

I will just stop right here and try to describe to you the picture I am seeing. It's a wide wide hallway, corridor that goes up. It's white, kind of a pearl white with totally gold accents and trim. Everything that is trimmed or accented is gold. It goes up, I don't know how far, I can't tell that, but then it levels out and as you come up into that area there are branches of hallways or corridors that lead off of that spot where it levels out. It opens up into - like an atrium and off of that, and it only goes 180 degrees, it goes directly from, as I see it, the West directly to the East and it wraps all the way around it 180 degrees, it fills the North. And the hallways, the atrium, the corridors, the places it goes are all empty. So I go back and let him continue to speak.

Return to prophecy.

"The Spirit realm of this world was never designed or intended to be ruled by Satan. And the only reason he has the jurisdiction and the sway and the influence that he has now is because my people have not stepped into their positions. So let me share something with you. When this world stands before me and is judged - I will not blame the sinner, the unrighteous, the unbeliever, the unsaved for the direction this world went. It is not within their power to change it. They are only responding to and following their God. But I will look at my people because with great authority comes great responsibility. I will look at my people and I will ask you this question. Why did you let it go that way when it was within

your power to change it? Fill my realm with the authority that has been given to you to rule over every demon, every ruler, every principality, every power; bringing to nothing every curse, every sin of the fathers, every generational hex.

Step into what I've granted you and let's begin revealing who I am to this world. Walk with me as a Bride. Walk beside me as a chosen one. Don't let me stand here alone trying to change this world when I've given all the authority to those who follow me and they do nothing with it. Step up as my bride. Step into the splendor. Step into the glory. Pursue me with abandonment and before you're done and your lineage is finished on this earth, we will change this area.

You will learn by my Spirit; you will see things in my Word that you've never seen before. It's plain, it's there, but you've never seen it before. I will show it to you. There will be those of you I will call out, I will segregate out, I will separate out and you will be the ones who will flow in this. It demands faithfulness. It demands perseverance. It demands Holiness. Without Holiness you can't see me and to have that Anointing of vision flow it demands Holiness. It demands a consecration. It demands to abandon all and follow me. Follow me. You will be taught of these things. I will speak to you of them again.

For now, this is my recommendation. Say very little to anyone who is not of this company about what I've told you to do and what I will reveal to you and how it will play out for you. I am not saying hide it. But I am saying don't go propagating it. Say very little. Don't look to establish connections with others. If connections need establishing, I will establish them. Don't go establishing connections. Operate in relative obscurity as far as man is concerned. The only ones who really need to know how you're operating in the things of the Kingdom and the realms of the Spirit is My Kingdom, My Father and I and Our realm. And believe me, the other realm will know when you start walking the halls. When you begin filling those corridors and opening those doors that have been closed to the lives of people for so long, believe me they will know you're there. No one else really needs to know. So for now I say, keep it quiet because so quickly things can be twisted, perverted, misunderstood and used in a way that does not promote the cause we're after but literally distracts from it. So let's not give the enemy that tool.

I say it again, I am so pleased so pleased with many of you. You have pushed after Me and come after Me as if you were in a dry desert arid land, a deer panting after water. You've come with everything within you. Make that a lifestyle. Not an occasion. Not a happening or an event. Make it a lifestyle. The harder you push, the faster you run, the more you commit to it the deeper into those corridors you will go.

Make it a lifestyle on the basis of my Word and do not be deceived. You do not understand the realms of the Spirit, you don't operate in the realms of the Spirit, you have seen very little in the realms of the Spirit, the only access you have to the Spirit realm is by my Spirit

and the breath that I placed within you. So do not be deceived and become fanatical or emotional or "flaky", as your pastor would say, and think you know something that you don't know. Walk humbly, walk respectfully, walk teachably, walk in submission to me. Basing everything on my Word. It is in there even if you haven't seen it yet. It will keep you from being deceived and getting into deception. It must be in my Word or discard it and as my servant Paul told you, though it would seem an angel from heaven came and gave you information, if it is not in agreement with the Gospel already preached, discard it. It is a lie, it's a deception. It is not of my Kingdom.

But with that I say, lay hold to the supernatural. For laying hold to the supernatural lays hold to me, for I Am the Supernatural."

43) May 20-23, 2009 - The main Regional Trip to establish the boundaries for the region. (Southern, Western, and Northern Boundary Line Established)

44) July 27-31, 2009 - The 2nd Regional Trip to establish the boundaries for the region.

- Monday, (27th) > Meeting with Koochching County Jail. (Offer - Jail Ministry)

- Wednesday, (29th) > Traveling across Ontario the Lord said:

"The time is coming soon that you will use the internet to reach these peoples."

- Eastern Boundary Established.

45) Late Summer, 2009 - Offer to introduce C.O.R.E. Programs into Northeastern MN jails.

46) October 4, 2009 - Word given via Dan Larson.

"It will be before this building comes. My impact will be your path and you will excel to bring my people to realness, goodness, and strength of my power. You are not alone, but set aside, so take heart do not retreat from my word. I am the Word and cannot lose. I have already defeated your enemy. Believe in me, boldly go forth and you will read my reward. Stand firm in my word. Do not listen to the worldly points of view. They are weak and shall be destroyed. You are mine. Stand firm in me!"

47) October 18, 2009

Today is a shift in Focus. "Deal with Pride so his Glory can manifest. Stop siphoning off the Glory he gives. Give ALL the glory back to God. Not being

humble blocks the Grace. (James 4:6) Everything - including the Glory - comes by Grace. The salvation of others comes by my grace."

2010

(48) January, 2010 - Seeking The Glory Mtgs.

These meetings gave W/L huge direction in a number of areas. Four of the most important were:

- (1) Permanent Change. God wants the changes he makes in us to be permanent.**
- (2) To truly give Glory to God, it must be about the Lost. We must learn to truly love them, and prepare for them. He asked us the question: Why don't you love the lost?**
- (3) In preparation for the next revival, God is asking: "Where will I put the Babies?" (Word given to Jim Isakson) (Emphasis switched on: 1/24/10)**
- (4) Tammy Belkholm saw a vision of the walls expanding out. We prayed over and pushed on the 4 walls of the sanctuary in the modular building.**
- (5) It's time to go after a building.**
 - This is what I was waiting for since June 24, 2008. I wanted the Lord to get the point of the need for a building across to the congregation.**
- (6) The proclamation of the 9, PLUS 2. Eleven different people had visions, dreams, words from the Lord saying if we are going to catch the beginning of the next harvest, we must build our new church building. (See: Specific Direction for Word of Life - 1/29/10)**
 - > The 11 people were: Patricia Beneze, Valory Philipczyk, Bob Urlie, Julie Barnes, Dave Rogers, Pastor Mary, Dennis Phillipczik, Jim Isakson, Pastor Vern, Debbie Nava, One person who wanted to remain anonymous.**

Specific Direction for Word of Life

Open Heaven Meetings - 2010

(Proclamation of the 9 + 2)

Jim I, Mary P, and Dennis P. - They also gave input concerning what the Lord was showing them that was in agreement with the picture painted by the dream, vision, and words listed below. They were sensing the same things, but they did not receive it like the others received their messages. However, it was the same message. Their input was given before most of the others said anything.

Friday Nite Service - 1/29/2010 - (Open Heaven Mtgs.)

Below is the listing of a mixture of Dreams, Visions, and Words from the Lord (Prophecies) received from 9 different people. None of them knew what the other person had been given from the Lord, yet they all fit together to give us (W/L) a clear message. You will likely see and understand what is being said to the church. But I will also add the explanation at the end.

Wednesday - (1/27/10)

During the praise time, Patricia Turner saw an ancient large rock wall made out of hand cut dark grey granite that had been in place for a long time. (Moss covered, etc.) A large wave came and smashed the wall. It came in conjunction with Pastor Vern hitting the floor with his hands during the praise and worship time. As Joe Samsa (Sr.) started stomping his feet on the floor, the waves grew in number and continued to hit the wall. The longer the waves crashed against the wall, it started to break up the wall. Eventually it fell down and the rocks were pounded into the sand. It was so totally destroyed that it was not possible to tell that it had once stood there.

Thursday - (1/28/10)

During the service, I (Pastor Vern) had an intense grief begin to well up within me. The further into the service we went, the stronger it became. It felt like a close friend had died and gone to hell. I could not shake it. While Jim was speaking, the Holy Spirit began speaking to me to answer the question I was asking him: What is this grieving all about? This is what I was told.

“With what has happened here (even just last night - Wed. night), this place should be packed with people yearning for more.”

I asked, but what about schedules, pre-planned events, activities, etc.? He didn’t answer the question. He just went on with what he was saying.

“Remember the emphasis that was set going into these meetings?” (He was referring to the John Paul Jackson video - ‘The Perfect Storm’.) “My people won’t be ready. They can’t see what the clear choice was for tonight and I’m grieving because they haven’t made the connection in their hearts to choose the right. If they can’t discipline themselves to make the switch now when it’s easy, they’ll not adapt and switch as things become increasingly difficult in this earth. They won’t be ready for what is coming.”

It was about half way through the above paragraph when Jim referred to Luke 10:38-42. And felt led to talk about Jesus, Mary, and Martha and how Martha had missed out on the best because of her busy-ness. I knew this confirmed that I was hearing the Holy Spirit.

“The greatest harvest this earth has ever seen is yet to come and God’s people will be underwater themselves in many areas and the harvesters won’t be ready.”

With that statement, I saw a picture of the christians crowding the church for prayer and help for their own lives. Instead of us being out there helping other people, we are struggling to hold our own life together. Too preoccupied with ourselves to be of help to others. He finished by saying:

“My warnings are not being taken seriously”.

Then he ran Hebrews 11:6 through my mind: “He rewards those who earnestly seek him”. I knew it was the answer to the problem he was grieving about.

Thursday - (1/28/10)

Later in the night, during the prayer time, Debbie Nava spoke a short word of prophecy. The message itself tells us that it was Jesus speaking. Here is what he said:

“Am I not worth it? Can’t you suffer for a little while for the joy that is before you?”

Friday - (1/29/10)

Valory P. handed a dream to me that she had in late September, 2009. It is as follows.

Setting: Beautiful Day. Sunshine and Sky and light blue. Harvest time. A large grain field.

Colors: Browns, Yellows, Silver's, and Gray's.

Directions: Walking East.

Time Indicator: Fall of the year. Sense of Urgency.

Perspective: Helper and Overseer.

Type of Dream: Extrinsic. Conditional. Destiny, Self-Disclosure, Directional.

“As many people as possible from Word of Life were going to meet in the middle of a field to prepare (regular farm maintenance) the elevators/augers and set up bins for the grain to come in. Several people from Word of Life volunteered to get this done.

I was walking out to the field to check on the progress. I walked across the field a long ways. It was a huge open field! I walked a long way before I could even see the elevators. When I could finally see the elevators/augers I was really discouraged because nobody was there working and it was a beautiful sunshine working day. But nobody was there. I continued walking and thinking ‘why isn’t anybody here?’ It didn’t make any sense. ‘Don’t people realize the importance of this preparation; of this grain? Don’t people care?’ I was going to go ahead and work on it myself and get done what I can.

The picture of this area where the elevators were was: there was one big auger about 10-12’ tall and about 7 or 8 arms extending out in all directions from around the top of the auger. (No specific numbers were mentioned in the dream. They were estimations.) The elevator setup was a silver/gray color.

I walked into the center and put my hands on the auger as I was thinking ‘where am I going to start to be the most efficient’? As I was thinking, I tapped my finger on the auger 2 times and I could hear the grain coming. It was coming fast! It did not start off with a few trickling in. The augers were loaded! The first two thought I had were (1) I cannot believe the harvest is here and we are not ready. There are no people here. We have no bins. We are not ready! (2) I need to get out of here. All the grain is going to pile up on the ground and I’m going to get trapped/buried in it. So I planned on darting out right between where the grain was coming out of two of the elevator arms. As I took a run for it, the elevator turned and I was not able to dart around the grain. It poured on my head and filled the hood on my sweatshirt. (It was also gray in color)

I woke up disappointed that we missed the harvest.”

Friday - (1/29/10)

Bob Urlie handed me a vision he had the night before. (1/28/10) It reads as follows:

“I saw a glow in the field of the property that the church has purchased. I did not see a church or parking lot. I saw a line of people, families, coming from all directions, walking to the glow. The lines seemed to be endless coming from the north. There were cars parked along the highway on both sides to the north and the south as far as I could see. There were cars parked in the ditches and any place there was a spot to park. I thought the parking lot must be full.

There was no traffic passing by on the highway. All the cars coming from the north and the south stopped and parked. Families got out of the cars and headed for the glow.”

Friday - (1/29/10)

Julie B. received a word on 1/24/10. It reads:

“Pull back a bow and scale a fortress wall - the wall of a fortified city. (I see the brick walls of a fort. About 2 feet thick. Greyish, brownish, and black in color. Like Fort Snelling. Limestone or granite.) Up and Over to get inside. Go and take back what the enemy has stolen. Reconnaissance mission. To set at liberty prisoners of war.”

She also handed a word to me which she had received from the Lord on 1/27/10. It reads:

“....all power in heaven and on this earth has been given to me. So, go into all the world and preach my gospel of peace and love to all who will, to all who will say ‘yes’ and ‘Amen’ to me. For my promises and truths are ‘yes’ and ‘Amen’ to you. Yes, it was for the joy set before me that I went to the cross. Now, it will be because of the joy set before you that you go through your own cross and meet me on the other side for life and the abundant, joyous life everlasting.

So go. Heal the sick. Find the lost. Redeem the redeemed. Find those already found. Seek out those who have already been found but have gotten lost along the way. For wide is the road that leads to destruction. But narrow is the gate that leads to eternal life and so few find it. Many find it. But so few actually stay on it because the road is hard. But fear not, for I have already overcome him and the world. I have given you the keys of my kingdom to open every door and every obstacle that comes your way. Use them. For the keys are keys, treasure, to unlock my majesty and glory upon this earth hidden inside alabaster boxes of my glory and for my glory.

Go. Seek and Find. Rescue those dying, smothering, in the depth of despair. Bring them to me and I will give them rest.”

(1/28/10) - “Up and over. Up and over. Up and over. No time for spiritual weakness. Strengthen every spiritual muscle. Even the ones not used very much. Strengthen your core. Prepare on the spiritual obstacle course. Up and over the wall. Up and over. No balking at the height of the wall like a horse.”

PLUS TWO:

The reason these are listed as the plus two, is because they were not included in the first time we talked about what the Lord was showing us. (Friday - 1/29/10) Both of these individuals had already received these messages, but they were not included in that first discussion.

(1) Vision. (Anonymous) December 13, 2009. the church body was in praise and worship. The body was in one accord and in our hearts we had desire for more room to worship and praise our Father. (THIS WAS STRESSED: More room in our hearts, and more room in the physical). The people turned to the walls of the present church and started to push on them. By faith we were expanding the size of the church. The size we expanded it to was going to be determined by our faith. When the vision began, the building was on Pastor’s property. When the vision ended and the church had been expanded, it was on the new property on Hwy. 47. The Glory of God remained inside the building at the new location.

(2) Word. (Dave Rogers) Late November or early December. “You need to come down off of Mt. Zion and go up to Mt. Moriah” Mount Moriah was the threshing floor. Harvest area.

So what is the Lord trying to tell us?

There is obviously a spiritual and/or soulish realm wall that is stopping our progress in an area. **The main focus is for what is behind the wall - PEOPLE.**

Spiritual Harvest and difficult times on the earth are coming. In the difficult time, it will be the time of Harvest. If we continue the direction we are going in our lives, (keep running our lives as we have been - no change in focus and carry-through) we as a people will not be ready for the difficult times. As a result, we won’t be ready for, nor very effective in the Harvest of Souls. (This is speaking of us personally, as well as the church)

The Dream explains that the Harvest the Lord is talking about has to do with Word of Life. It was a huge harvest field that was ‘OURS’. We were to be getting ready to reap the Harvest, and we weren’t even in the field. Good intentions by a few, but no follow-

through. Again, likely tied to too much busyness in our own lives. Wrong Priorities. As a result, we're not ready for the Harvest, and we lose it. There will be some type of separation, dividing out, or something different that will take place. (This was pictured by the 2 taps on the elevator. Two being the number of difference, division) It has to do with knowledge. (Color of the augers - silver/grey) Once this takes place, the Harvest will begin to come. God wants it to come quickly.

The Vision includes another area where we will not be ready for - the Harvest of People. Our land is setting empty. Here the Lord is telling us we need to get moving on the building process.

Julie's word about the wall says the same thing - simply from a different perspective. People are in behind the wall, and God is wanting us to get them out. We're to operate in the supernatural to get this job done. And the focus in these words deal specifically with prisoners of war, and people who've gotten lost along the way of the narrow road. (This is talking about people who are already saved) The words tell us that this is a spiritual and soulish problem. Spiritual: 'No time for spiritual weakness. Strengthen every spiritual muscle.' Soulish: 'No balking at the height of the wall like a horse.'

What is the wall representing? He already told us: It's talking about the blockages in us. We're running our lives on the wrong priorities. We're too Busy with things that will not matter in eternity. We have not been willing to suffer in our lives for what he is asking us to do. As a result, we won't be ready in the physical or the spiritual for the difficult times coming in our future. Nor will we be ready for the Harvest.

The Bottom Line is that we are needing to make some changes in our personal lives. Our priorities. Busyness that has little to no affect on eternal issues & the lost. We're being asked to Love and go after the lost, as well as the christians who are prisoners of war or have lost their way. We Must Prepare for the Difficult times coming to this land. And we must stop being in denial to it, or we won't be ready for it. We Must Get Moving On The Building Process if We are Going To Be Ready for the Harvest of People That is Coming.

49) January 14, 2010 (Prophecy)

Prophecy Given At Word Of Life - By Pastor Vern Peltz (During The: "Seeking The Glory" Meetings)

"I want to reveal great secrets of wisdom to you. (I Corinthians 2:7) Open your hearts to hear. Open your eyes to see. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

One of the major characteristics of the fallen flesh is to look back - not forward. It dwells on the fact that life is not the same as it was before. It's not the same as it was last year, or 5 years ago. Somehow it's not as good as it was before. The flesh looks backward in time.

This is one of the main reasons why my people do not mature. They are looking back to what was and not forward to what will be. It is one of the main reasons why my people do not walk in faith. They are looking back to what was and not forward to what will be. Adults long for the childhood or teen years. Older adults are wanting life to be as it was in their early adulthood. THIS IS NOT OF MY FATHER. He enjoys, embraces, and lives in the NOW looking forward to what will be. He loves the new. It's what consumes him. He talks about it. He thinks about it. He plans around it. It's the flow of his being. He loves the NEW. His mercies are new every morning. He is going to give you a new name. He will create a new heaven and earth. Every day is a new day. You are a new creation in the anointing. Every season in creation is new, even though they cycle between each other. No two are the same. You have been given new life. My Father loves the NEW. It's what my word calls prosperity. It's moving further down the road of success and leaving the old behind and going into the new. To look back - to want things the same - is to become static. IT IS NOT OF MY FATHER. To look back and desire for what life once was, so it can be the way it used to be IS NOT OF MY FATHER. The more you allow yourself to do it, the more you indulge your flesh and old nature - and the stronger it becomes.

You go where you look. You go where you fix your gaze. You move toward what you behold. That's why my word says the things you have seen with your eyes and the things you have looked at - this proclaim concerning the Word of Life. That is why Jacob looked at the sticks with his sheep. It's why Abraham looked at the stars. It was why Elisha saw the heavenly army that was with him. Your destiny will be affected by what you look at. Fix your eyes on me (Jesus) the author and finisher of your faith. Faith doesn't look backward. Faith looks forward. Flesh looks back to the good old days. Flesh doesn't want to look forward to progress, movement, and change. The future is designed by my Father to be better than the past. It is fear that rises up to contradict that. It's that same fear that cripples your forward progress. You will find yourself caught between two worlds. Your past, and your future. Your past brings longings and desires of how it used to be. The garlic. The onions. The mellons. The leeks. The future causes fear and uncertainty. So you are caught between two worlds without movement.

Too often my people try to re-create the emotion and feeling of yesterday. Of yester-year. They try to live their life as though they were still a teenager, or some other time in their past. They try to hold on to and recreate the past. As a result of doing that, their emotions begin to have more say in their lives than I do. Look to the future, but not in emotion. Your emotions were designed to be a support to and invigorate what you already know in your spirit. YOUR EMOTION IS TO FOLLOW YOUR SPIRIT. When you get into the

mindset of looking back to your past from your emotions, you will also look forward to your future through your emotions.

This will not work. You will become fearful and anxious which will cause you to avoid looking into the future. As a result, you will continue to look back. Wanting things to become what they used to be. That stagnates my people. They become useless to me. They aren't moving or going anywhere. THINGS WILL NEVER BE WHAT THEY WERE. THAT SEASON OF YOUR LIFE IS OVER. Even if you tried to go back and recreate the setting of your past, it will not happen. Life is not designed to function that way. You cannot repeat the old ways. You must move on into the new. Emotions were never designed to lead you into the future. You are created to move forward, gaze into the future via your spirit.

Doesn't my word say that my Spirit would show you things to come. When it's revealed to your spirit, it will create hope, joy, anticipation, and a longing for what lies ahead. Now you can walk in faith. Confidently knowing what is to come. You will be able to call those things that are not as though they were because of the revelation I have given to you. The pleasant emotions will then follow. Dry periods and what you call dry spells come when you try to hang on to the old and not embrace the new. You get out of step with my Spirit because he is always moving to the new. He is prosperity. He is your path to success. If you fall behind, not staying in step with him, His nearness leaves. His comfort and encouragement grow dim. And his working in your life grows shallow. Your life spiritually becomes dry. Let me say that I do not work in casting spells. So a dry spell is not of me. I work in Blessing.

To gaze into the past is to become who you were in the past. The you of the past will not be able to handle today. And the you of the past will definitely fall short of your future. My Father's design is growth. From the child, to the young man, to Fathers. It is in Fatherhood where true growth and progress take hold. It is not a place of being stagnant in what you've become. If it were, my Father would not be infinite. With every new human being that comes on this earth, he must expand to encompass them with his plans and purpose for their life. He now has one more person to think about and love. My Father is not a child. My Father is not a young man. My Father is a Father. In that Fatherhood, everything of life grows, changes, multiplies, and progresses.

I call you to embrace your today. I call you to look forward to your tomorrow. I call you to become mature as our Father in heaven is mature. I call you to stop trying to get back to the way it used to be. **THAT IS A TRICK OF THE DEVIL. HE IS STEALING YOUR FRUITFULNESS AND MY DESTINY FOR YOU. YOUR BEST IS YET TO COME.** Look for it. Believe for it. Meditate on it. Be led to it and **IT WILL COME.** What your future is to look like - is in my Word. Gaze into it and let me take you there. My Spirit will reveal and lead. Stay in Step With Him and you will not fulfill the desires of the flesh."

50) March 20, 2010 (Prophecy from Destaye Crawford)

“I see you nine months pregnant. I see the stretch marks. You cannot get stretched much further. It’s time for the baby to be born; for Revival to begin. You ask me how. How will this be done? And here will come forth the David’s. The least expected ones. The ones that others will say: go home to your father. David just came to serve. He came on command. He came to bring bread. David remembered what God had already done for him with the Lion and the Bear. Remember what God has done for you and that same Glory will come on you and more. Remember, you are the least expected. You will take a rock to the head of the enemy and he will fall. And here comes the Kings. Here comes the Kings.”

51) July 15, 2010 - Destaye Crawford.

“From Abraham forward, God always gave his people a land. Value the Land. Never give up or sell the land like Esau did to the Blessing. She saw the land as a Fair. A Place of Worship. A Place to Play. A Safe Place for the future children.”

52) I was sensing the Holy Spirit was going to do something with a church building the following summer. (2011) I would be entering the 3rd and last stage of my life. (Moses Pattern)

53) October 30, 2010 - Prophecy given at Word of Life by Pastor Vern Peltz

“My people there is a shift, there is a shift coming in the direction and the flow I am going. It is about upon you. Whatever you need to prepare, prepare it quickly. Whatever needs to be pruned, let it be pruned quickly. My Father will prune it and will remove it and allow you to heal back up and be healthier and stronger without it than you are with it. There is a shift about to take place, an emphasis change. My Spirit will begin pulling and drawing a different direction. Keep your eyes open, keep your ears open, keep your minds open and open your hearts to me that you do not miss this shift. There is a shift change. It is already birthed and moving from the heavens. It is being imparted to this Earth. You are on the precipice of it. It is right at hand. Look for it, jump in with it, flow with me in this. There will be a shift in the anointing. There will be a shift in emphasis. There will be a change in my focus. There will be a change in the direction I will walk. I pull on you my people to walk arm in arm with me, walk beside me. Let’s make this a unified, unified move of my Father on the face of this Earth. This is not a time to slumber. This is not a time to sleep. This is a time to be vigilant, be sober, awake. This is not a time to relax or go on vacation

spiritually. This is a time to be sharp and to be keen to me and my voice. Hunger after me, thirst after me. Draw near to me. We are about to take a turn."

> This had to do with the change in 2011 - the building.

2011

54) January, 2011 - Open-Heaven Meetings.

1/7-9/11 - Randy Mitchell. Summary of what God was telling us. He dealt with the question from the previous year's meetings: "**Why don't you really care about the lost?**" The answer is below:

- (1) It all goes back to the 1st and 2nd commandments. (Matthew 22:37-40)
- (2) To **Grow in our Love Relationship with Jesus,**
- (3) We must culture our daily, dynamic relationship with him,
- (4) **As we grow in that Love, we will begin to Really care about the unsaved.** (wife, family)
- (5) **The lack of true Love and Honest Caring about the Lost, (spouse, family, etc.) is only the reflection, evidence, thermometer of how much we Really Care about and Love God.**
- (6) Sloppy, Half-hearted Discipleship will not produce a Love for the Lost.
- (7) Discipleship in us is paramount to growing in our Love Relationship with Jesus,
- (8) **And Honestly, Truly being Moved by the fate of Unbelievers. (spouse, family, etc.) To be a disciple, we will have to relinquish every claim we have to our life. Jesus didn't die for sin, he died for People. Sin was just a problem he needed to get out of the way.**
- (9) **We are limited by only one thing - how much we Love him and his creation. Expanded Authority, Power, Impact, Destiny, Etc. come with Expanded Love.**

**WE ARE COMMISSIONED TO GROW IN LOVE FOR THE LOST,
STARVING, DYING, HURT, DAMAGED, REBELLIOUS, ETC.**

55) 1/21-23/11 - Bruce Van Natta.

- (1) **It's not a power thing. It's a Love thing that releases the power.** (Bruce Van Natta)
- (2) We're not to be Power or Glory Seekers. **The baseline motivation for wanting to see God move in people's lives, must revolve around Love for those people.**

56) Winter / Spring, 2011 - The Lord Leads us to find a ‘Stepping Stone’ building for the church. We didn’t have the finances to build what we thought we should ultimately be after, so this is a building that will fill our physical needs as a congregation and allow us to continue grow. We have had planning meetings to build for about 3 years. Now we know we can’t afford to build on Hwy. 47 at this time. So the Lord has directed us to pursue a ‘Stepping Stone’ building. We are making all the financial arrangements needed, and diligently searching for a ‘stepping stone’ building in 2011.

57) March 22, 2011 - Personal Word to Pastor

“Now you will begin to pick up steam.” (This was referencing a word he had given me in the mid-90’s > ‘Your train hasn’t come in yet.’

58) May 18, 2011 - Julie Barne’s Dream

- > Twins. The baby is twins. More room is needed to expand. Double in size. The time for expansion and movement has risen upon us. It is near. It’s time to expand. To increase.**
- > Geisha fan. This is a Japanese Fan Dance. It involves slow, deliberate movements, figures and poses, which sometimes tell a story. We were being invited by God to do the dance of building construction with him.**

(This is speaking of the physical building and it’s purpose)

59) May 22, 2011 - Doreen and Joe Samsa Prophecies.

Doreen.

- > You are my church. You are my people. But I have heard the cry of your hearts. I see the building, I know it is there and now I will begin to speak to you on how it is to be built. Listen my Children! There are you that I have chosen... I will show you what it will look like, I will show you how it will be done....it is near! It is close! It is not in the distance, it is close! Be ready! Be listening! Know that I have heard you. I have heard the groaning of my people. I have heard the cry of your hearts. It is time... now! It is time! Be listening! Be ready! Because I am ready to show you.... I am ready to speak - for now is the time.”**

(This was talking about the physical building project)

Joe.

> My children - I stand in anticipation as I look at you this morning. My desire for you is to take a new step. To find your step... your destiny, and step into that and to begin to harvest the blessing that I have for you. You have sown, continue to sow, but now is the time of harvesting the blessing for you and for this body! The blessing will come as you find your destiny! As you seek it out -as you begin to walk in it (the path that I have chosen you to walk in) as you see your destiny, the blessing will be there. Harvest it! Take the steps - harvest it! Bring it into my house! Bring it in that there may be plenty for all. Bring it in! Bring it in.

(This is talking about the harvest we are to be involved in after the building project is completed)

- 60) July 11, 2011 - “Arise my son. Plan and prepare. I swore in oath to you that I would take care of the building. At a time when you think not, it will be upon you.”**
- 61) September 29, 2011 - Signed purchase agreement on Hwy. 95 property.**
- 62) October 30, 2011 - Direction and Confirmation Dream given to Pastor Vern concerning buying the Hwy. 95 property.**
- 63) November 13, 2011 - Visions.**

Julie Barnes.

> I saw that we are surrounded by angels with their backs facing us. Guarding us. Then I heard, ‘Open up you ancient gates. Open up you ancient doors and let the King of Glory come in’.

Then I saw a door, like a huge garage door, opening from the bottom up. The light from the other side is spilling through. As the door opens higher, a procession of people, beings / creatures, from the other side start coming through.

Then I heard, ‘get ready for a holy visitation! The King is coming! Get ready for a Holy Visitation!’

Tammy Belkholm.

> During praise and worship I sensed the presence of the Lord. (I'm not sure specifically if it was the Father, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit. So I will say the Lord.) I had a very reverential feeling come over me that I felt a very holy, humble adoration of his presence walking among us. I wanted to go to my knees in respect and honor of him, but the Holy Spirit said, 'Raise your Hands in Praise'. Instantly, I saw a huge field of golden wheat swaying in the breeze and saw him walking with his hand outstretched touching the wheat heads. I saw him turn his head, I think he was surveying the readiness of the harvest.

I looked up, and saw the sun or maybe it was his glory shining through the golden heads of wheat swaying in the breeze. The wheat heads turned into hands praising and touching the Lord's hands as he walked in the field. I saw the tassels of his garment run through my fingers: it was white, red, and purple.

Dean Gann-Olehy

I saw a great harvest, and huge fields, and a great need for harvesters. I sensed the Holy Spirit wanting the the church to get into the harvest field - and that was the source of the burden and I felt for this harvest / people / souls - and his desire to get them into his Kingdom.

(By this time, we are deep into the process of purchasing the Hwy. 95 property. The Lord is again focusing us on the purpose for that building)

64) December 17, 2011

Rev. Mary Cooley-Davis

I saw a white pillar that reached heaven. It was flawless. The Lord spoke to me and said, 'the worship of these people here is so pure. They don't worship me for my hand, they don't worship me for who I am, they worship me just for the sheer joy of worshipping me'. Then I saw a gold cylinder come down and cover the white one and yet the gold was transparent so I could still see the white one. The Lord spoke to me and said, 'that with pure worship his glory comes down and when it comes down, souls are saved. When his glory comes down people are healed. When his glory calms down miracles take place'. He said, 'as long as the worship remains pure, his glory will come

down'. He also said, 'that he had opened a portal in this church and as long as the worship remains pure, the glory will come down'.

65) December 18, 2011 - Personal word to Pastor.

“See what happened when the people increased their expectations. Now I want you to learn how to receive more effectively.” (This was referencing Hwy. 95 building)

2012

66) January 18, 2012 - Conditional use permit for Hwy. 95 property was granted.
This was the culmination of 2 miracles > Zoning and Variance Issues.

67) March 10, 2012 - Prophecy given at Word of Life by Pastor Vern Peltz

“The fathomless riches of my Grace... you can't comprehend. What I, your Creator, am capable of doing among you, with you and in you...hasn't entered into your heart yet. As it enters into your hearts, it will be the seed that will manifest into the physical. As it enters into your heart...it will be the seed I plant for you to nourish and water and speak forth and bring it into the physical. You think you're expanding your horizons. Compared to what I have for you it's nothing. Let me kick down the walls. Let me knock over the idols. Let me come in and open up and soften your heart. For the fathomless riches of my Grace...you have never comprehended. The things I want to do on this earth... (I'm not talking once you leave this realm) I'm talking here and now - And it will start in you because you rule this realm. So I encourage you again: offer the deepest part of you to me with abandon. No holding back. No restraint. No fear. Offer the deepest part of you, your heart, completely. It's very easy to do: you make the choice to do it. And on the basis of that choice everything else in your life will follow it. Make the choice to give me everything. Everything. Don't hold any corner of your life back. Don't hold any area that you are unwilling to change... (that's what I mean by holding back) Don't hold any area that you are unwilling to change, no matter what I would ask of you...you're willing to give it. No matter what I may ask of you...you're willing to give it. And your horizon will expand. Your comprehension of some of the deeper things of Grace will begin to overflow and abound. You will become a conduit that will allow me to penetrate into this world's system as you have never comprehended. So I say it again: let me take you beyond the confines that you have set for your life. Let me take you beyond them and you will truly begin to see the horizons of possibility that, at this point, many of you have already dismissed. You don't even entertain the thought of allowing your mind to go that way. You

don't dream, imagine, wonder, and allow me to put thoughts and dreams and visions inside of you that are so beyond humanly possible...there's only One who could pull it off, and that's Me! It hasn't dropped in your heart because you're not allowing it to. Let it drop in your heart. Let that seed be planted and then watch over it and guard it. Let it grow. It may look a little different as it grows than what you envisioned when it was planted...but it will take you into realms that are beyond physically/humanly possible. For I am the God of the impossible. I have never been limited by anything or anyone. I am infinite. I am ever, ever increasing! And I call you to be like me. Be imitators of me as dear children."

68) March 18, 2012 - Word through Dan Larson.

"It is all for good. There is no division in the Kingdom of God. Only power in one. Love in one. And soundness in one. We are one. Me in the Father, you in me, and I and you. All the words inspired by the Spirit are alive and for your good. Those that live in them and truly for them will prosper in life. Believe, Believe, Believe."

- There had been some things coming against and causing doubt concerning the purchase of the highway 95 building. This word again confirmed we were doing the right thing in purchasing the property.

69) March 28, 2012 - Closed on Hwy. 95 Property.

70) July 7, 2012 - Prophecy given through: Pastor VernPeltz

"Behold I stand at your door and I knock. If any man hears my voice and opens the door I will come in and I will supp...I will commune with him. I am...I am your source of the supernatural. Where I AM...the supernatural flows. Have I not warned you that the closer the end times come that there would be a spirit of wickedness and lawlessness. A spirit of 'I will do what I want to do' – lawlessness. That will be ever increasing and will rise. It is also called in MY Word...the spirit of anti-christ. The spirit of ANTI – CHRIST. The lawless, wicked, spirit that permeates the atmosphere has been called by my Father 'The Spirit of Anti-Anointing'. You are faced with a battle that has not been seen to this magnitude on the earth before. It's a battle for my Anointing. Everything in this world is rising to squelch my Anointing. Anti-Christ. Anti-Anointing. And I told you what it would look like when it rises. Its lawlessness. 'I will not submit...I will do it my way.'

So My People...I call you to the exact opposite. I call you to the exact opposite! Submit to my Spirit in you. Any area of your life that you have decided to do it 'your way' is wrong. And it will flow with the atmosphere of this age and it will squelch...it will be ANTI the

Anointing. So I ask you to rise up and be strong. I go before my Father on a regular basis praying that your faith will not fail. But that you will be firm and steadfast and unmovable always. Discerning good from evil. And making the choices necessary....not just to do something different, but making the choices necessary to be a vessel for my Anointing to flow through you. Be strong. Be vigilant. For your enemy, the devil, prowls around you looking for away to devour you. Looking for a way to cause you to become dismayed, disheartened with me, your God. And if he can plant those seeds of poison in your heart and you allow the environment or the atmosphere to soak into you and cause those seeds to grow...the end result will be what my Word says: a very powerless last days people and church. But I'm calling you to a higher standard because by Faith, and I speak to my Father...together you can rise above this. Together – you and me. You can rise above this! And this will be the mark of my last pushes for the outpouring of my Spirit over ALL the earth. The mark will be the people who have risen above what the spirit of this age is trying to drape over you and make you bow to. The people who rise above that will walk in the Supernatural. Signs and wonders and miracles will confirm I AM God and my Word is true.

Don't sell your destiny for some cheap, worldly pleasure or entertainment. Don't sell your destiny for a life that's relaxed and allowing the flesh dominion. The same way a destiny was sold for a bowl of soup, something to satisfy the physical – the same way it was sold, and, in that case, never to be recovered. You can sell it today for something that will soothe you and comfort you in the physical that I am not pleased with and I am asking you to stand against and I'm asking you to war against and force it to die in you and in your life. Lay down your life and then you will find True Life. So again I say...I call you to a higher standard. Do not measure yourselves among yourselves. Just because other who name themselves by My Name are okay with some things happening in their lives doesn't mean you measure yourself against them and think 'now I'm okay with it happening' in your life. Don't measure yourself against others...measure yourself against my Word and what my Spirit is telling you. For I am the way, the truth and the life. Anyone who comes to me I will NOT cast out.

So rise up my people...be my Bride. Without spot, without wrinkle, without blemish – not soiled by the things of this world. Rise up my people, be my Bride. Rise up my people, be my Bride. Come out from among them and be separate says the Lord your God: Not soiled, not wrinkled, not spotted by this world. You say 'How? What do I do?' That's why I gave you my Spirit: He will teach you and lead you and guide you into all truth, He will remind you of things I've already taught you and He will show you what is coming. You WILL be prepared. Rise up and walk by my side in the splendor and the glory that I have available for you. Don't be satisfied. Don't be satisfied when it's not working in your life the way my Word says it's suppose to work. Don't be satisfied! Hunger and yearn after me and my Ways! Ask, seek, and knock. Ask me – you will receive. Ask and continue asking. Seek me and you will find. Seek and continue seeking. Knock and the door will be opened.

Knock and continue knocking. I am expecting great things out of you for I am in you and I am for you and I am with you. No weapon formed against you will ever prosper as you are in me and I am in you.”

71) September 9, 2012 - By: Pastor Vern Peltz

“Now it is my time to speak says the Lord of the generations. I want to speak. I want to speak to my workman, my handmaids and my warriors. Behold I’ve stood at the door of your heart and I have knocked. Some of you have let me in... fully let me in. Some of you have opened the door enough and peered out enough that I can speak to you through the crack in the door. And some of you refuse to open to me at all. So now by this vessel... by a gift imparted by my Spirit – I choose to speak to you this morning and I choose to speak to you face to face. **I need you. I, the Living God of this universe, need you! I need you to be the light of this world. And I need you to be the salt to this earth. I need you.** Now I will come back and continue speaking to you.

Now I want to speak to the **older generation...**

There was something that happened when your Pastor prayed over one of my little creation. He felt it was because he is getting old. Let me bring clarity to that. It has nothing to do with his age. It has to do with: **there is a shift in preparation for the greatest harvest this world has ever seen. I am about to gather... not thousands, not millions... I am about to gather billions into my Kingdom.** I will, I will have the reward of my suffering! I WILL! **Now I have spoken to you before and told you that as the baby boomer generation you were groomed to be a selfish people. Because of the prosperity that I blessed this land with, because of the freedom you enjoy in making choices, coupled with the evil and the wickedness that wants to stop what I am about to do on this earth. There was an entire generation in this land (which you call America) that has been groomed to think about themselves. What they want, what they desire, how they want life to be, what they can accumulate for themselves, how easy they can take it in this life and on and on and on I could go on describing how an entire generation was made to tune me out and put all focus on what they want. And all success, and all achievement was based on humanistic thinking. What they want. I’ve called you in the past to refocus. Some of you have, some of you have not. Some of you persist in your mindset, your thinking as you have been trained. It’s about ‘you’. Your future, your desires, your goals, your plans, your dreams – it’s all about you.**

So now I speak to you to encourage you: you will have some catching up to do. You have not allowed me by my Word to transform and renew your mind to think differently. You’re

still caught in the old pattern that was not of me. So now you will have to make effort to catch up quickly. Because now I am not calling for refocus... now I'm calling for the shift.

Now I'm calling for the shift. You, older generation, are responsible. You, of the older generation, are responsible to impart into the next generation. You're responsible to encourage them, you're responsible to watch over them, you're responsible to guide them by My Spirit and I emphasize that: by My Spirit! I don't need your traditions passed on to this next generation – I need the power of my living Father to flow into this generation like you have never dreamt or imagined. So I speak to you in caution: speak to them by my Spirit! Not by your tradition. I need you to not make them 'earn' their way forward. I need you to catapult them forward. And I'm speaking of supplying for them in the physical realm. I didn't give it to you to make your life soft and easy. I gave it to you for the furtherance of my Kingdom.

If I were to ask this morning the question I asked the rich man when I was on this earth: 'sell it all and come and follow me'. I would have much of the same response I had from the rich man. Now don't misunderstand me, I'm not asking that question, but I'm bringing it up for you to check your heart. If I asked the question: 'sell it all, give it to the Kingdom and come follow me'... would you turn away the same way he turned away? See selfishness is not a new thing, it has been around for a long time. Don't conceal selfishness as wisdom for it is not.

The key principle is: hear from my Spirit what you must do. There is a shift in process. There is a change of direction and course in process. Much of the revival to come and the harvest ingathering that is coming... much of that harvest will not be brought in by the older generation. It will be the next generation's responsibility and I will empower them! They will not be asked to do this on their own. But I need you, the older generation, to not only think differently and refocus on what this whole thing is all about. I need you to find ways to leave a heritage in the next generation and impart into them. I'm calling you now to sow...because they will reap. And the two will rejoice together.

So now I speak again to the younger generation:

I speak visions (breath breathed on the people)...I speak dreams (breath breathed on the people)...I speak angelic visitation and cooperation (Breath breathed on the people)...I speak the supernatural to begin to settle into your hearts with such convincing of my Spirit – you will know that you will know that you will know that YOU KNOW! You will be so thoroughly convinced that it makes no difference what the god of this age would throw at you, you will stand with a face as flint. Your armor will be intact and you will be a warrior for Righteousness... for RIGHTEOUSNESS! Something that is severely beginning to lack on the face of this earth! RECEIVE what I speak to you now... receive it by Faith! And out

of it will come signs, and wonders, and miracles and healings...and wisdom and insight and answers -answers of the supernatural order. Not something that you ponder and you think about and you work through in your human mind and you try to find a way.

Something that will be a simple answer that drops into your heart - like I gave to the Scribes and the Pharisees and the Sadducees over and over and over.

Remember when I came to this earth I laid aside the Godly empowerment that I had as the Word of God. Everything that flowed through me was by the Spirit of my Father. Some of you have said: 'Oh that I might have the answers and the wisdom that Jesus had. It wasn't my wisdom or my answers... it was the Spirit speaking through me as the Father spoke. And what I had I freely give to you! Rise up in this. Look for Supernatural... Supernatural insight and understanding, and you'll know when it's my Spirit that has spoken to you. It will be so clear. You'll know, 'I could have never thought of that, and now I see it perfectly' – that was me speaking to you by my Spirit.

My young men and my young women: this church is now studying Joseph. Let me remind you something of Joseph: it was in his early years I spoke to him. I spoke to him and gave him the purpose for his life. This is what I want to do with you. Are you willing to hear it? Are you willing to see? Are you willing to understand? You say, 'What do you mean am I willing?' Are you willing to die to your dreams and your goals and your desires and your plans of what you thought you wanted this life to be? Are you willing to die to it and lay it all to the side and say, 'God...here I am! I offer myself freely, willingly and I give all of me to you! Whatever you want – wherever you need me... anything you desire I am yours!' Are you willing? Because he who lays down his life will find it. You must lay it down and empty yourself of yourself before I can fill you with me. It's just how it works since sin has entered this human race... that's how it works.

I am preparing for the greatest victory this earth has ever seen. You have heard there are more people alive on this planet today than all the people in previous centuries combined. Here is my heart: it matters nothing to me if it's one or it's billions...I am asking you to be my ambassadors and go to this one or to these billions because I died for every one of them. I love them with a craving and a longing no human can understand. I need you... I NEED YOU to follow my Spirit, go do what He says! I will supply, I will provide and I will empower you! It's already bought, it's already paid for. If you will step out in faith, set yourself as though you will never be moved from what I've asked you to do! I will come with the Supernatural. I've already called it over you. Step into agreement with me and it will manifest to you.

So behold I stand at your door and I knock this morning. Open the door. Open the door. Open it wide! And as it says: 'I will come in and sup and commune with you'. Would you find comfort, would you find security, would you feel reassured if I physically came to your

house, sat down at your table and said, ‘Now this is where I will stay until all is accomplished in your life’ – would you find reassurance in that? Because that is the picture I’m giving you this morning. I am asking to come and sit down in your life and not leave, and not move until all is accomplished. And I am reassuring you – I am reassuring you that all will be well! Just let me come in and sit down. All will be well.

I will begin showing many of you the faces of people that are in your hands. Their destiny, their future will be based on whether you obey me or not. How will they hear except someone goes and preaches to them? And older generation...how will that one goes except they be sent? I will convince you... by My Spirit... I will convince you... I will convince you...I will convince you... and it will be a supernatural convincing because I am raising up an army that is not going to be complacent... an army that is not going to be slothful... an army that is not going to be with me one day and against me the next... or fighting for me one day and the next day its all about them! I am raising up an army that will step into the realms of the Supernatural and will operate with me at their side like this world has never seen before and I’m standing at your hearts door and I am knocking this morning and I am asking: open that door and let me in and commit yourself to me this day!”

2013

72) January 6, 2013 - Brad Brede

- a. The emphasis of the coming Revival will be the ministry of the believer.
- b. We will need to be passionate about where God is going by the Holy Spirit.
Getting into this move of the Spirit will need to become a PASSION of ours.
- c. The things we are passionate about are what consume us:
- Our Time, Energy, Mental Abilities, Priorities, Finances, etc.
- d. We will need to become passionate about God ministering through us.

73) January 8-13, 2013 - Jim Isakson.

- a. Jim went to the old sanctuary (in the modular) and the lord told him:
> “Now begins the outreach”.
- b. The Holy Spirit told Jim that we are digging a ‘well’.

> He was given a vision of a 'well'. It was located in the front of the platform and the prayer area immediately in front of the podium.

c. Brian D. message in tongues and interpretation.

> 'Call the lost in for me'.

d. Pastor Vern saw: (1/10/13 - Thursday)

"I saw angels gathered on the outside (roof) of the building. They were in lines. Shoulder to shoulder. They had long handle spads. The color of the spads handles were yellow. (Yellow: A gift from or of God; the mind)

They were digging open the heavens above this facility. It was interesting how they would dig in time with the beat of the songs being played. The shoveling was like it had been choreographed. All kinds of various movements and motions were being done. I could see about 4 lines of angels digging in unison with the line they were in. The dirt was being moved from the front to the back. As it was thrown behind them, the lines behind would pick up the dirt that was thrown back to them, and they would throw it over their shoulders to the row behind them.

Faster songs seemed to cause them to dig faster." Our digging in the Spirit correlates with their digging.

e. Pastor Vern (1/11/13 - Friday)

(New Purpose for an Open Heavens)

Before the service began, the angels were not digging. They were standing and waiting. When praise began, they began to dig. Tonight they dug with more vigor than what I saw last night.

I got down and poured my heart out to God about a couple of things, one of them being establishing an Open Heavens over this facility. He said it would not open this week, but I believe he said it would open next weekend. (Bruce VanNatta meetings).

He said: 'There is a reason for what he's doing and how he's doing it. The reason for the Open Heavens is different over this building than over the other building. The timing of opening it will be tied to the purpose for it being opened.'

f. Bruce VanNatta meetings. (1/18-20/13)

The Holy Spirit said:

> God always works in a progressive forward movement. The things of the past are not random happening that do not apply to today. This was our first set of Open Heaven Meetings in the new building. When were we told

to Pursue with a bigger building? What else were we told to Pursue? Love for the Lost. The Babies.

> Now we have the building.

- The Spirit tells Jim: "Now begins the outreach".

> Brian D.'s message..... "call in the lost for me."

> Told to Pastor Vern:

"The Open Heavens that will be established over this facility is not about us like it was last time. It's for us, but it's not about us. It's going to be about others."

Which points us toward the next revival.

Which points us toward the shift in the anointing for the next wave of the Spirit.

> "NOW BEGINS THE OUTREACH."

- That's the purpose of our digging.

- And out of it flows everything God wants us to move towards.

> What Does Digging Denote??

- Pursuing the manifestation of the Fulness of God for the Babies and the Lost.

74) There was a strong move of the Spirit on Sunday, the 20th, 2013. A strong spiritual thrust for the Lost. That's when we sensed the Heaven's Open over the new facility.

The opening that was seen (Pastor Vern & Julie B.) is shaped like an upside down funnel or tornado. It is whirling like a tornado.

75) January 21, 2013 (Monday - The day after the Open Heaven's Mtgs. - Pastor Vern)

I was taking it easy in the morning. Fell asleep. Had a dream of regret. The heart of the dream had to do with looking back on my life and not being concerned enough about the lost. WHY hadn't I tried harder to reach them? The Lord put it into a picture of having one of my children lost for eternity. WHY didn't I do whatever was necessary to spend time with them and reach them? The grief in the dream was over-whelming.

He reminded me of what motivated me as a high schooler. It was the cry in my heart for my friends salvation. That's what was at the base of the craving and longing for God that he spoke to me about on Sunday.

He said one of the deceptions that gets into the church is we reverse the correct priorities. We slip into pursuing the manifestation of who he is with more intensity rather than why he came.

He went on to explain, most everything the full gospel church pursues is simply the manifestation of who he is. (Health, Peace, Love, Joy, Prosperity, Miracles, Etc.)

These become the focus. Where in reality the question that needs to be asked is why did these things come to the earth? They simply came with Jesus as he came to pursue (seek and save) the lost and re-establish a loving relationship with man-kind. That's why: 'who he is' - manifested. As we pursue - what he pursued (s) - 'who he is' will manifest among us too. (Mt. 6:33)

WHY are we digging the well? It directly correlates to WHY God wants to Open the Heavens. It goes back to what he just told me in the dream. (Correct Priorities) It goes back to what he asked us 3 years ago - Why don't you love the lost? The reason we are to dig a well is to be a source of water and life to the lost. It's all about the water flowing through Word of Life (people) to reach the lost.

76) May 1, 2013 (Given to Pastor Vern)

Word for the church:

Revelation 3:8 - “.....see, I have place before you an open door that no one can shut.”

“Watch, Listen, and sense for it!!! (It is done)

> Rev. 3:8 - Keep his Word.

- Do not deny his name.”

77) June 20, 2013 (Word spoken to Pastor Vern - Given to W/L 8/4/13)

John 3:16 - “For God so Loved the World that he gave his only begotten son”

“The supernatural follows giving prompted by Love.

> Ex. - Jesus coming to this world and the supernatural that followed him.

“To operate in the supernatural, you must do it by Love. It's that simple. Love will cause the supernatural to manifest. It's that simple.”

“I (God) didn't have to save this world and man-kind. I was under no obligation. Nothing compelled me to do it but one. My Love for the human race.

> I just want the best for you.

Love will cause what you consider an inconvenience.

> It will cause you to spend time, energy, and resources on things, people, and relationships that you originally were not planning to do.

(“that he gave”) - Jn. 3:16

> I've had to give far more than my original plan because all I want is the best for you.

> Because of sin, with that Love comes heartache, disappointment, emotional upheaval, and pain. (Deut. 21:23)

> I'm willing to deal with that because I just want the best for you.

I hate:

Proverbs 6:17-19 (KJV)

[17] A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

[18] An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, [19] A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord

among brethren.

> Because they destroy what they come in contact with.

> I just want the best for you because I Love you.

In selfish Pride, my people actually think they can please me and remain in step with my Spirit > even though they do something different than what I've said. They actually believe they know the answers and the way to do things even though they haven't heard from me.

Because of the sin of selfishness the supernatural doesn't flow in my people as it should.

> You measure what you do by how much it will inconvenience you, because you choose to not walk in Love.

> Even though my Love has been shed abroad in your hearts. You will ignore it's promptings because of your selfishness. (Inconvenience you)

To flow in the supernatural you will need to Love so you will be willing to inconvenience yourself and give.

Love will cause one to risk it all. Like my son coming to be your Savior.”

78) November 14, 2013 (Given to Pastor)

“You've (my people) betrayed me and continually do. Your life (their lives) is still too much about you and not enough about me.

I Am So Betrayed. (For the first time in my life I heard the Holy Spirit Cry. Intensely Cry)

The reasons I was given to this earth, my people (not everyone, but christians in general) largely ignore. It's as if the purpose for which I was given does not exist.

The reason I came was to give daily and continual relationship. But my people have betrayed me for the voices of this world. They no longer listen for me before they make decisions, choices, (and he went on and on and on)

My people seek the experience more than relationship. This is why my people are being deceived. They aren't in me enough to sense what I sense, feel what I feel, recognize if I'm really in something or not."

79) November 16, 2013 (Given to Pastor)

I was praying about what happened on the 14th. I had heard the Holy Spirit cry and was wondering how would a person explain that to the average christian? When it says so little in the word about Jesus or the Spirit crying. When he said:

"Would Love not cry when it watches thousands, and thousands - on a daily basis - go to a place of eternal damnation? Would Love be Happy - Happy to know it's most precious creation is going to a place of fiery torment? I grieve with everything within me for them to allow me to introduce them to the Savior of their Souls."

Holy Spirit said, "I need you to be willing to allow me to cry through you. Some will be offended, but many, many, many more will be drawn to it. This was part of what was created into you. That's why you cry when my anointing becomes strong. Now I'm asking for you to give me freedom in this. When it happens, you can explain why it's happening, but do not apologize for it. It is a tool in my hand, that I will use to bring Glory to my Father."

2014

80) January 7, 2014 - We were directed by the Spirit to welcome the Angels that are to be here. (Heb. 1:14)

81) Angelic Activity - (Open Heavens - 2014)

Thursday - 1/9/14 (Pastor Vern)

During praise and worship.

I saw a large (20' +) angel (with wings) on the west side of the building on the outside. He was standing on the inside of the fence. (But near it) I knew he was one of the angels who came Tuesday night when we welcomed them and asked for those who are commissioned to be here.

When I first saw him, he was spinning in Praise and Worship.

He was motioning exaltation toward the heavens with his arms and wings in unison. Then in one of the songs he began doing a different thing. He would be standing on the ground then quickly he'd lift both wings straight up and he'd quickly rise into the air approx. 30 feet. Then he would put both wings down very quickly and crashed to the ground. Hitting the ground with extreme force. He landed on his feet to begin with. then as time went on, he would come down with such force that it would force him down to his one knee, and eventually to his knee and hands. This happened over and over, then I saw 3 of them on the east fence line doing the same thing. I believe I could sense that there are 5 on the fence line on each of the 4 sides. (Counting the corners). But there may be more, I couldn't tell. They were all doing it in unison. Over and over.

The Holy Spirit said “they are causing the demonic spirit realm to be terrified of this place.”

I asked why there were so many of them. (Compared to the modular property). He said, “because he knew what was coming.”

I didn't see any weapons, but I felt like they were some kind of warrior, guarding, protecting, defending angels. Not sure.

Saturday - 1/11/14

I saw his boots. Reminded me of the Roman style. They went up to the knee.

During P & W - the angel on the west side was oscillating his arms and wings in worship. One side high and the other low. Then Vs - Versa.

At the end of a worship song - he bowed down and covered himself entirely with his wings.

Sunday - 1/12/14

Before service I saw his lower half. He's standing with a large sword - point down - with both hands resting on the top of the heel of the sword.

During P & W. When Dean, Eugene, and Sam started dancing around the sanctuary, his sword began to burn with a flame. The flame height was a few inches high. As we praised, he would move the flaming sword around over his head and in front of him. The movements were a mixture of smooth and war-like. He did this for the rest of the faster songs. I noticed during this time that his wings were almost not visible. He is able to fold them up on his back so that they are almost not able to be seen.

When we all knelt in worship, he knelt down with his face to the ground and covered himself completely with his wings. The flaming sword was laid out in front of him and it pointed straight forward. It was still burning.

82) The following insights have been given throughout 2013, and 2014)

Many, many angels have been posted around the opening. Besides the warring / guarding angels that have been posted around the property, there is an angelic orchestra which plays with our praise and worship. The angels in and around the property are typically in a reverential, more still posture until Praise and Worship begins. Then the heavens over the facility go into motion. The more intense the

Praise and Worship, and Prayer / Intercession - the more action and movement in the angelic host given to minister with and to the church.

There movements and dance, (95% plus of the time we are in P & W, they are in some form of dance) which appear to be choreographed, are almost exclusively done in a group fashion. The exceptions to this are the warring / guarding angels, and a few others who function in more of an individual manner. The choreography and movements are very different from what we see on earth. (Partially because of the physical limitations of being on this earth) Every movement and gesture carries a meaning.

Without trying to give details of the multi-faceted work and ministry of these angels, I'll simply say: they are with us every service. Their involvement directly correlates and is proportional to the intensity of our Praise and Worship, and/or Prayer.

Even though they are obviously involved with other facets of the service, at this time the ability to see what they are doing stops after the times of P & W and Prayer.

Chapter 7

‘God’s Current Pursuits in Word of Life’

These are found in Chapters 4-6.

Some of the things found in chapters 4-6 are no longer relevant. (For example: we are now in the ‘Stepping Stone Building’, so we don’t have to continue Pursuing it.) However most of it is ongoing. We are suppose to Pursue them, and the Generations following are to Pursue them.

Rather than re-printing the items that apply, I will leave a few pages blank for you to write in the principles we specifically cover in the Open Heaven Meetings.

As we study these, you will see there are some major themes that re-appear on an on-going basis. Those I will list here to help us as we study.

- 1) Harvest. Revival. Multitudes being Saved.
- 2) Establishing an intimate, close working relationship with the Holy Spirit.
- 3) Pursuing God with everything that is in us. Pursuing with Abandonment.
- 4) It’s ‘For You’, but it’s not ‘About You’.
- 5) Learning how to and then working in the spiritual realm. Seeing what is happening in the region, and around the world - so we can address it and rule it spiritually.
We are called to operate in ‘the Corridors of Victory’.
- 6) Remember, it’s not you. The moment you begin taking credit and thinking ‘it’s me’, you will lose it and will have to start all over to regain the ground you lost. Guard pride, guard pride, guard against pride.
- 7) Worship. A Dividing out of Worshippers. Doors and Gates open with Worship.
- 8) The earth is needing a display of the raw power of God. This will bring the generations in.
- 9) Focus on the Lost, the Babies, the Generation behind you.

- 10) Viewing the Kingdom from the perspective: what we do must have the Generations following us as the Focus. Refocus. Refocus.**
- 11) Following God with Abandonment. No Holding Back. No Restraint.**
- 12) Seek Wisdom. Find what I do, and learn to do it like me. That is Wisdom. Teach that to the following Generations.**
- 13) Growing and Maturing so we will not be driven by Selfishness. Again, for the Generations.**
- 14) Living in Wisdom. (Teaching it to the Generations)**
- 15) Operating in the Power of God. (Teaching it to the Generations)**
- 16) Establishing an organization / church that will remain. Not needing to be rebuilt. (Generations) To do that, the Anointing must be guarded.**

Chapter 8

‘God’s Gifts to Mankind’

As the influence of the spirit of antichrist increases; and the Love for God grows colder in many people; and lawlessness / wickedness increase on the face of the earth; there is something that I'm very concerned about. This is it:

Will the emphasis and the importance of ‘The Gifts to Mankind’ be diminished?

You might be thinking, pastor why would you say that? I say that because:

Ministry and Selfishness DO NOT function together.

That is why the more Selfish we become the less ministry we are involved in. Most of the time there are many excuses and reasons why we are not involved, but the bottom line is almost always - Selfishness. Ministering and serving others becomes too much of an Inconvenience. It doesn't fit the lifestyle we've chosen, or the priorities we have set for our lives.

It's bad enough when that settles into our thinking. But here's the bigger problem.

The things we think, feel, and honestly believe, we will teach to our children, our grandchildren, and the lineage that follows us.

The result: because of our sin, a pattern of not pursuing God and what he desires will set up in our lineage.

Because of the Selfishness of the Baby Boomer generation, are we going to be responsible for birthing a new strain of ‘The Sins of the Fathers’ in our lineage?

Is that part of what Jesus was talking about when he said the Baby Boomer generation has been groomed to be Selfish in an effort to thwart or hinder the coming Revival?

Is the ministry, and being called into the ministry being emphasized as the most important occupation a person can have - should God be asking someone to do it?

Do we speak positively towards ministry in our families? Is having a minister in our lineage something that is valuable and important to us? Do we encourage our children to seek God to find out if he wants them in the ministry?

Do we consider the gifts that Jesus gave to mankind as something desirable for our children and lineage to be part of? Or does our attitude, our comments, our priorities, and our advice steer them away from a life dedicated to full-time ministry?

Have we fallen into the scheme of the last days:

(2Ti 3:1-2 (NIV))

[1] But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. [2] People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,.....

What are we emphasizing the most: Money, or Obedience in Ministry?

Emphasizing Money:

- > Make sure you get a good job, a career, so you don't have to struggle in life....**
- > Ministry will take care of itself. You'll always be able to do something for God and minister some how.....**

Emphasizing Ministry:

- > Make sure you are obedient to God, and do what he's asking you to do first in your life.....**
- > Money will take care of itself. God will always make a way to take care of you if you are doing what he is asking.....**

I am concerned.

Just to make sure were on the same page, here's what the Holy Spirit told us about the gifts given to mankind.

(Ephesians 4:7, 11-13 (NIV))

[7] But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. [8] This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men." [11] It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, [12] to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up [13] until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Realize v. 7 says each one of us are to operate in these five major capacities as he has apportioned it. Every one of us has been given the ability to minister, and we are expected to do so.

However, that's not what I'm referring to now. What I am talking about now is the person whose whole life is dedicated to the purpose of Full Time Ministry.

Besides the basic things that God Pursues and we are to Pursue with him, (ch. 4 & 5) there is a strong emphasis that has been placed on ministry in the areas that God has said Word of Life is to Pursue.

Each one of the following points is a direct quote from something the Lord told us. Either via Prophecy, Dreams, Visions, or Personal Words.

Let's look at a few of them.

1) "They (Next generations) are the Hope of this world." (1/14/11)

> How can they bring the Gospel to a dying world, if none are in the ministry?

(Ro 10:14-15 (NIV))

[14] How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? [15] And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

2) **I take you to a place of the generations.** (10/16/05; 6/3/07)

> One of the main purposes for establishing Word of Life in MN is for what will be happening in the future generations. (Should Jesus' not return soon)

3) **Money will not save this next generation. Your society has become a money focused society and the god of this world has endeavored to train your society to believe, with enough money you can fix anything. Money will not be this next harvest's source.**

(6/3/07)

> Selfishness always puts money (earning and spending) ahead of what God wants. Selfishness does not like to 'Give' financially. That is why the Holy Spirit spoke through Paul and showed that in God's perspective, faithfulness in financial giving is directly in proportion to how much we Love God.

And a lack of faithfulness in financial giving is directly in proportion to how much we Love ourselves more than God. (Selfishness)

(2 Co 8:7-9 (NIV))

[7] But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

[8] I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. [9] For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

4) **This earth is needing a display of the raw Power of my Father and I wield that Power through you!** I need a people who are willing to wield the raw, invincible, unconquerable, unfading power of Almighty God. It will bring this generation in.

(8/5/08)

5) **Do not belittle what you have been created to be.** Do not think less of who and what my father has designed you to be. You carry an important position in these days. And **literally life and death for this community and much of this region is in the hands of a few - and you are part of that few. I speak to the generations:** I want to live and move and speak and literally breathe through you. That's why I'm in you. That's why I'm on you. (8/5/08)

6) **...the quality and the characteristic and attribute of faithfulness is quickly fading in this land.** Each year that goes by, more and more do not understand what it means

to remain steadfast, faithful, laying hold to what my Spirit has told them and not turning away from it for any reason; total abandonment to me. Many, many are growing dimmer and weaker in that area. And the only way I can counter that is to create a people who will stand in the face of adversity, who will stand in the face of persecution, who will stand when onslaught comes against them and most of all they will clothe themselves with the armor and they will face the spirit realm and the rulers and the princes and the powers of darkness and they will stand; and having done all they will remain faithful to stand. (5/16/09)

This must be taught to the generations or it will be lost. (5/16/09)

- 7) Instantly, I saw a huge field of golden wheat swaying in the breeze and saw him walking with his hand outstretched touching the wheat heads. I saw him turn his head, I think he was surveying the readiness of the harvest. 11/13/11)

I looked up, and saw the sun or maybe it was his glory shining through the golden heads of wheat swaying in the breeze. The wheat heads turned into hands praising and touching the Lord's hands as he walked in the field. I saw the tassels of his garment run through my fingers: it was white, red, and purple. (11/13/110

- 8) I saw a great harvest, and huge fields, and a great need for harvesters. I sensed the Holy Spirit wanting the the church to get into the harvest field - and that was the source of the burden and I felt for this harvest / people / souls - and his desire to get them into his Kingdom. (11/13/11)

- 9) I need you. I, the Living God of this universe, need you! I need you to be the light of this world. And I need you to be the salt to this earth. I need you. (9/9/12)

... now I'm calling for the shift. Now I'm calling for the shift. You, older generation, are responsible. You, of the older generation, are responsible to impart into the next generation. You're responsible to encourage them, you're responsible to watch over them, you're responsible to guide them by My Spirit and I emphasize that: by My Spirit! I don't need your traditions passed on to this next generation – I need the power of my living Father to flow into this generation like you have never dreamt or imagined. So I speak to you in caution: speak to them by my Spirit! Not by your tradition.

I need you to not make them 'earn' their way forward. I need you to catapult them forward. And I'm speaking of supplying for them in the physical realm. I didn't give

it to you to make your life soft and easy. I gave it to you for the furtherance of my Kingdom.

The key principle is: hear from my Spirit what you must do. There is a shift in process. There is a change of direction and course in process. Much of the revival to come and the harvest ingathering that is coming... much of that harvest will not be brought in by the older generation. It will be the next generation's responsibility and I will empower them! They will not be asked to do this on their own. But I need you, the older generation, to not only think differently and refocus on what this whole thing is all about. I need you to find ways to leave a heritage in the next generation and impart into them. I'm calling you now to sow...because they will reap. And the two will rejoice together.

My young men and my young women: this church is now studying Joseph. Let me remind you something of Joseph: it was in his early years I spoke to him. I spoke to him and gave him the purpose for his life. This is what I want to do with you.

Are you willing to hear it? Are you willing to see? Are you willing to understand? You say, 'What do you mean am I willing?' Are you willing to die to your dreams and your goals and your desires and your plans of what you thought you wanted this life to be? Are you willing to die to it and lay it all to the side and say, 'God...here I am! I offer myself freely, willingly and I give all of me to you! Whatever you want – wherever you need me... anything you desire I am yours!' Are you willing? Because he who lays down his life will find it. You must lay it down and empty yourself of yourself before I can fill you with me.

I am preparing for the greatest victory this earth has ever seen. You have heard there are more people alive on this planet today than all the people in previous

centuries combined. Here is my heart: it matters nothing to me if it's one or it's billions...I am asking you to be my ambassadors and go to this one or to these billions because I died for every one of them. I love them with a craving and a longing no human can understand. I need you... I NEED YOU to follow my Spirit, go do what He says! I will supply, I will provide and I will empower you! It's already bought, it's already paid for. If you will step out in faith, set yourself as though you will never be moved from what I've asked you to do! I will come with the Supernatural. I've already called it over you. Step into agreement with me and it will manifest to you.

So behold I stand at your door and I knock this morning. Open the door. Open the door. Open it wide! And as it says: 'I will come in and sup and commune with you'. Would you find comfort, would you find security, would you feel reassured if I

physically came to your house, sat down at your table and said, ‘Now this is where I will stay until all is accomplished in your life’ – would you find reassurance in that? Because that is the picture I’m giving you this morning. I am asking to come and sit down in your life and not leave, and not move until all is accomplished. And I am reassuring you – I am reassuring you that all will be well! Just let me come in and sit down. All will be well.

I will begin showing many of you the faces of people that are in your hands. Their destiny, their future will be based on whether you obey me or not. How will they hear except someone goes and preaches to them? And older generation...how will that one goes except they be sent?

I will convince you... by My Spirit... I will convince you... I will convince you...I will convince you... and it will be a supernatural convincing because I am raising up an army that is not going to be complacent... an army that is not going to be slothful... an army that is not going to be with me one day and against me the next... or fighting for me one day and the next day its all about them! I am raising up and army that will step into the realms of the Supernatural and will operate with me at their side like this world has never seen before and I’m standing at your hearts door and I am knocking this morning and I am asking: open that door and let me in and commit yourself to me this day!”

If reaching this world is the most important thing to God, we can rest assured it will be under attack by the antichrist spirit.

The importance, relevance, commitment, and dedication needed to reach this world will be undermined.

God’s heart is for the Harvest, and he’s always looking for Harvesters. Remember: the Harvest is Great and the Laborers are few.

If that’s a primary focus to God, it needs to be a primary focus for us.

Chapter 9

‘Conclusion’

I sit here, having worked on this Manual for about 3 months. I find a set of dual emotions rolling around in me.

- 1) I find my Heart is Breaking. There are a couple of things Jesus said that are resounding within me:**

(Mt 24:37-39 (NIV))

[37] As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. [38] For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; [39] and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

(Lk 21:34-36 (NIV))

[34] “Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. [35] For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. [36] Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

- a. The average person is numb to what is really happening around them. (Including many in the church) We live like everything around us is ‘normal’ and ‘acceptable’, but we are totally unaware of reality as God sees it.**

The average person ‘knows nothing’ of what is currently happening around them, and what is going to happen.

- b. I can keenly understand why Jesus wept over Jerusalem when he tried to draw her to himself, and she would not. (Matthew 23:37)**

The realization of a - above, leaves me feeling so utterly helpless. What can we do to save our family, friends, co-workers, community, region, nation, and world?

c. I pray with everything in me:

- > That none in my lineage;
- > That none in my sphere of influence and in Word of Life;

THAT NOT ONE IS DECEIVED AND LOST!!!!

- > Now and in the generations to come.

d. I pray - Give us the Love, Sensitivity, and Boldness to do what we're called to do

> 'Seek and Save the Lost'.

- Keep us From Deception setting up in our own lives.
- Give us a Love for the Lost.

2) At the same time, I find 'Hope' ("A Joyful, Confident, Expectation of Something Good") stirring around inside of me.

- *"Where sin abounds, Grace much more abounds" (Romans 5:20)*

a. We do not serve a defeated God!!! When the dust settles on this era of the world's history - I believe with all my heart he *"always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ"*. (2 Cor. 2:14)

- *"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ". (Phil. 1:6)*

- *"18But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not "Yes" and "No." 19For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by me and Silas and Timothy, was not "Yes" and "No," but in him it has always been "Yes." 20For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. 21Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, 22set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.*

(2 Cor. 1:18-22)

b. God put us on this earth at this time because he knew we were up to the challenge.

(Ps 139:16 (NIV))

[16] your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

(Ac 17:26 (NIV))

[26] From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.

- c. Our creator didn't put us on this earth to lose us for eternity. No!! He put us here because HE IS PURSUING THE SALVATION OF HIS CREATION WITH EVERYTHING THAT IS IN HIM!!!

And he knew: (1) We could assist him with that.

(2) We would assist him with that.

(3) We would Love Him with ALL our Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength. And because of that Great Love that he has "*Shed Abroad in our Hearts*", we would take on his mission; focus and dedicate ourselves to do everything in our power to let him work in us and through us to accomplish His Mission.

+++++ **WE DO NOT SERVE A DEFEATED GOD, AND WE ARE NOT A DEFEATED PEOPLE!!!**

- 3) But I also am keenly aware, after spending 100's of hours on this subject:

WE BETTER TAKE THIS THING SERIOUSLY.

THIS IS NOT A GAME. FOR IF IT WAS, IT IS THE HIGHEST STAKES GAME THAT WE'LL EVER PLAY.

**WE ARE DEALING WITH OUR OWN PERSONAL ETERNAL LIFE.
WE ARE DEALING WITH THE ETERNITY OF OUR CHILDREN, AND
LINEAGE.**

WE ARE DEALING WITH THE ETERNITY OF THE GENERATIONS!!!!

THERE IS NOTHING ABOUT THIS WHOLE THING - TO TAKE LIGHTLY!!!