

Since 2000 A Monthly Christian Newsletter Publication





Life Events

January 2008



Let's Celebrate!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Denise Jones

It's Another New Year...

The celebration of the New Year is the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago.

In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the new year. But tampering continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what has come to be known as the Julian Calendar. It again established January 1 as the new year. But in order to synchronize the calendar with the sun, Caesar had to let the previous year drag on for 445 days.

The song, "Auld Lang Syne," playing in the background, is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the New Year.

"Auld Lang Syne" literally means "old long ago," or simply, "the good old days."

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A miracle is the supernatural intervention of God. All of us have needed a miracle from time to time. The problem is that most Christians don't know how to receive a miracle from God.

The best advice is don't wait until a storm hits to learn how to believe God for a miracle. During a storm, emotions will cancel out your faith.

It's good to clarify the difference between a blessing and a miracle. A miracle is a supernatural intervention of God. A blessing is still God's power, but it flows through natural channels. Blessings are better than miracles. If you live your life from one miracle to the next, you will live from crisis to crisis. It's better to be blessed with good health than to always need divine healing. God's will is for us to walk in blessing.

We all need a miracle at some time to simply jump-start our faith. If it weren't for miracles, we wouldn't grow to the point where we could walk in the blessings of God.

Most Christians believe that God does miracles, but simply believing God is able to do it is not enough. You must know how to receive it.

Many Christians just wish and hope it happens. They think there is no way to grab a hold of miracles and make them happen. That's not what the Bible teaches.

God is predictable and orderly. He doesn't

do one thing this time and another thing another time. God created this world and everything physical around us, and the physical world is orderly. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He is forever faithful.

Faith is governed by laws. Romans 3:27 says, "Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith." The kingdom of God is consistent. When someone is killed due to the law of gravity, we may wonder why God did that. He didn't, but there are laws that He put in place.

Gravity says that if you jump off a building, you will be killed. If you cooperate with God's laws, you will be fine. If you ignore those laws, you can be killed by the laws intended for your good. It's the same with the spiritual laws of God.

So, how do you receive a miracle from God? First, you must recognize that miracles are not just hit and miss. You can tap into a miracle. You learn the laws of God and how they work, and miracles will happen. I'm not saying you can push a button and God pops out or you can make God do whatever you want. I'm saying God is turned on all the time and any time, you get turned on, you can see the power of God operate. God is always wanting to move on your behalf. God is for you — He is a good God.

God's desire is for you to prosper (Psalms 35:27). God's will is for you to be healthy (III John 2). God's will is for you to be above only and not beneath (Deuteronomy 28:13).

You are the one who controls God's ability in your life. God doesn't. It is God's power and His ability, but it's up to you. The Scripture says in Ephesians 3:20, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."

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Many people leave off that last phrase, "according to the power that worketh in us." If there is no power in you, you can stop God's intervention in your life. God has chosen to never violate your will. God has chosen to flow through you. Satan can't stop God's power, but you can. God wants you to have a miracle, but you have to stop waiting and start believing.

The most important miracle in the Bible is the virgin birth of Jesus. God came and lived in a physical body — now that's a miracle. The account is found in Luke 1.

The angel came and spoke to Mary of this miracle. The miracle happened when Mary answered (in verse 38); "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." When God creates, He speaks it into existence by His Word.

God did all His miracles by the spoken Word. In Genesis, He created the world by the spoken Word. Hebrews 11 tells us, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." The important point is that your words are involved in your miracle.

Many Christians put prayer above all and believe that if you pray, it will happen. Prayer is like water or fertilizer that you put on the seed. But, without planting a seed, watering is useless. If God was moved by need, every person's need would be met. Also, those in the worst situations would get their needs met first. That's not true.

You must plant a seed, which is the Word of God. I Peter 1:23 says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." We are born again of incorruptible seed — the Word of God. The word "seed" in this scripture means sperm. We are born of a supernatural union and the seed of the word of God.

Farmers believe that if you plant wheat, you get wheat. If you plant corn, you get corn. They don't question it — they are simply laws. Everybody agrees with that in the natural; but when it comes to spiritual things, most people don't believe that.

But the truth is, if you aren't reaping what the Word of God says, you haven't planted what the Word of God says to plant. You reap what you sow. If the Word of God is primary in your life, you're going to get the results of the Word of God. That doesn't mean Satan won't fight you and you won't have problems. The end result will be you're going to have what the Word of God says. Satan may fight you, but you'll win. Many of us know this intellectually, but in our hearts, there is fear or reservation. We don't have the absolute confidence that God's Word is going to prevail in our lives.

Romans 8:6 says, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." If all you think about is the Word of God, that's all you'll get. You may not be thinking, I want to be sick, but your thinking has been sick. Proverbs 4:22 tells us that the Word of God is "life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh."

When God wanted to bring Jesus into the earth, He couldn't just create Jesus. God gave all authority over the earth to man. God did not rule directly over the affairs of the earth. After man blew it, God couldn't come down here and intervene. He had to work through man. God was looking for a man to flow through but couldn't find one. So, He had to come Himself (Isaiah 59:16). In the virgin birth, the Word of God was the seed. Everything else about the birth was natural. God spoke that miracle into existence.

I believe every one of us has a spiritual womb (our hearts) where the Word of God enters in

and germinates, and we conceive a miracle. Sometimes you may receive a miracle as a gift through someone else's faith. You can't depend on someone else; God wants you to be able to conceive a miracle. Meditate on the Word day and night, and you will get spiritually pregnant and bring forth fruit.

It's impossible to have a miracle without planting the Word of God. One farmer thought he could violate the laws of God. He waited to plant wheat until everyone else's wheat was about ready to harvest. He planted \$10,000 worth of wheat the month before harvest. When it didn't come up and he lost his money, he came and wanted me to pray. I told him that's not the way it works. You don't sow a crop when you want a crop. Some of us haven't had the seed planted in us, but we want the crop. There is a time of sowing and reaping (Galatians 6:9).

We don't just naturally grow up believing God. It takes renewing our minds. God's Word is the most important step to receive a miracle. Romans 10:17 says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." You can't just know the Word intellectually. You must meditate on it so it becomes living and active on the inside of you. Most of us don't meditate on the Word as we should. We are occupied and don't have time, and we are upset with God when we don't receive our miracle. That's just as foolish as the man who didn't plant his seed but was upset when he didn't receive a crop.

If God's Word is planted in your heart, you'll receive. It doesn't matter what you feel — God's Word will produce a miracle.

Most of us have had times when we have prayed a prayer of faith and our prayers seemed to go unanswered. Maybe you got into the Word of God, planted a seed, and prayed for a miracle. Then, nothing happened. The problem is that many people stop believing at that moment. God's Word says in Mark 11:24, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." This is where most Christians stumble. The Bible says to believe when you pray that you have received.

Most of us are familiar with Matthew 7:7, which says, "Ask, and it shall be given you." However, when we don't see an immediate manifestation to prayer, we say, "Well, not everyone receives." That's not scriptural because the next verse says, "For every one that asketh receiveth." Most of us don't really believe this scripture. We lose our excitement in the Word and don't expect it to work like that.

I had a friend with leukemia and she believed that she would be healed. I prayed that she would be healed. On her death bed, she still believed she would be healed at any time. She died and I prayed for her to be raised from the dead for a long time. Her father said that it couldn't be God's will for everyone to be healed, or she would have been healed. I didn't understand and it was hard for me. It was several years before I figured out how I allowed the devil to beat me on that one.

I had a responsibility to bring about God's will. Some people believe that God's will comes to pass no matter what we do, but that's not true. God is bound by His own laws. II Peter 3:9 says that it's not God's will that anyone should perish. For that to happen, there has to be someone to preach the Gospel. God's will does not automatically comes to pass. Psalm 89:34 says, "My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips." God has bound Himself by His own Word. God gave us authority over the devil, and we must exercise what God has given us.

Many people interpret God's Word by their

own experience, "God's Word says one thing, but here is what happened." If someone doesn't get healed, we make our own theology and say, "Well, not everyone gets healed." God doesn't say no to something He already said yes to. You need to learn to interpret your circumstances by God's Word — not God's Word by your circumstances.

Most of us have seen a promise in God's Word and believed to the best of our ability, but it didn't come to pass. How do we harmonize the fact that God is true to His Word and it didn't happen?

There is a physical world, and there is a spiritual world. The spiritual world created this physical world. There is a spiritual reality for everything physical. In II Kings 6, you can read the story of Elisha. When the Syrian army had surrounded Elisha and his army, a servant asked Elisha, "What shall we do?" Elisha answered, "Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." Verse 17 tells us, "And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round Elisha." weren't about There more physically but more spiritually. The angels of God surrounded them. Elisha spoke the truth.

Some people say it's a lie to speak that you're healed when you don't feel healed, but that's operating only by your five senses. You have to walk in the spirit. There are spiritual realities. John 6:63 says, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

The Bible is spiritual truth. We are limited when we only think in the physical realm. Just because you can't see it doesn't mean God didn't do it. God always answers when you pray according to His will. When God answers your prayer, He gives it to you in spiritual form. If you ask for finances, God releases the spiritual power to produce those finances. If you pray for healing, He gives it to you in spiritual form. God's operation ends in the spiritual realm, independent of you.

Faith is the key that brings the answer into the physical realm. "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews **11:1).** Your faith brings what God has accomplished into physical reality. God gives it to you in the spirit, then faith brings it into the physical realm. Many times you don't know God has answered your prayer because you can't perceive it in the physical. You have to believe something is happening beyond your five senses. If you don't believe it until you see it, you won't receive from God. The Bible says you have to believe you receive when you pray.

What happens between the time you say amen and see the answer manifested? We learn something about this when we read about the prayers of Daniel. In Daniel 9:20, Daniel is praying, and the angel Gabriel appears and tells him (in verse 23), "At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee." In only three minutes, God answered his prayer. Gabriel said at the beginning of his prayer God answered, but it took three minutes for it to become visible. Sometimes it takes a little time to manifest in the physical. Often, we step out of faith and stop the manifestation from coming.

In Daniel 10, Daniel is praying again. This time it says, in verse 3, he fasted and prayed for three weeks. In verse 10, God sends a messenger and answers. Why did it take three minutes the first time and three weeks the second time? Some people say that God is making them wait to teach them something. That is not scriptural. The Bible says that the Scripture and the Holy Spirit is given to teach us. We can learn through trials, but God doesn't send them to teach us.

In verse 12, the angel told Daniel that God heard his prayer the first day and sent the answer. What held up the answer? The prince of the kingdom of Persia did battle with the angel for 21 days. There was spiritual warfare going on for three weeks. Satan fought to keep the answer from Daniel. In the Old Testament, people didn't have authority over the devil. That authority came with Jesus. If God had shown Daniel what was going on, he couldn't have done anything. In the New Testament, the blinders are removed because we have authority over satan. We don't have to wait for the devil to run his course. When Jesus withstood temptation, the devil left because he had done everything he could do (Matthew 4; Luke 4). Satan doesn't have an unlimited bag of tricks.

If you pray and don't see manifestation immediately, God is waiting on you to stand against the devil and bring it into being.

How can Satan hinder your prayer? He can use another person to hinder your prayer. Sometimes, other people are involved in your answer. If you are praying for finances, intercede for the people who will be used in your prosperity. If you are trying to sell a house, pray for the person who will buy your house. If you want a promotion at work, pray for the boss who will be used to give you your promotion.

Some of you may think you don't have enough faith to believe for a miracle. The truth is that you can't get any more faith than you already have. Romans 12:3 says that God has dealt to every man the measure of faith. God gave us all the same measure of faith. In Galatians 2:20, Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Paul said that he uses the faith of Jesus. You have the same amount of faith that Jesus has. That should be enough.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

(II Corinthians 3:17-18)

Central Truth: Prayerfully set your heart toward the work of the Lord and His plan for you.

We awoke to a day that heralded the New Year — an opportunity for a fresh start on life and faith. Our age is not of consequence. We can neither erase our past nor live in it. Life and time march forward. We can choose to greet the New Year as a welcomed fresh beginning or we can yawn and monotonously trudge on in autopilot mode.

Deep within each of us, however, there is a yearning for fresh starts. That's why our games have a second half, a new inning, and a fresh hand that is dealt. When things are going well, a new start gives us a chance to continue our blessings. When things are not going well, a fresh start enables us to hit the reset or reboot and begin again . . . with a new screen, a clean slate and fresh start.

God provides us this new start because of His grace and steadfast love. He built into our lives new days, new weeks, new months, and new years. Each is an opportunity for a fresh start filled with new opportunities to escape the traps of the past and to find the love, joy, hope and peace that his Holy Spirit longs to bring into our lives.

So it's a bright new shining year. What are

you going to do with it? Where is God calling you to go in your life with this new start? What opportunities has He placed in your path for this new adventure? In what ways will you passionately serve Him in the days ahead?

Many folks make New Year's resolutions then routinely break them. Experts say that these resolutions really hold sway over thoughts a mere three days or so. However, as believers in the risen and exalted Lord, we know that fresh starts can be forever. Transformation from one degree of glory to another can be a daily thing. (II Corinthians 3:17-18) So let's not let this new start at a fresh beginning escape us. Prayerfully set your heart toward the work of the Lord and His future for you. Commit your ways to Him and keep your eyes open for His glory in the days ahead.

Scriptural References:

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in him." (Lamentations 3:22-24 NRS)

HAPPY NEW YEAR TROOPS Remember Our Troops



Thanks for all you've done, are doing and will do. We pray God will bring you safely back on American soil. You are in our prayers and thoughts daily. God bless and keep you.



SPECIAL NEW YEARS PRAYER



Heavenly Father,

Give us a new year. Not just a new number, but a truly new year. Give us a year full of new things, new adventures, new attitudes, and visions. Lord, give us a new year full of new ideas and refresh some of our old ideas. Give us new relationships and renew old relationships, and restore relationships that have been broken.

Father, give us a new year. Give us a new song. Give us a new memory. Give us a new image of Your Son, and help us to show His image of those who are new to You. Give us new thoughts, new friends, and new things that replace the old worn-out things.

Father, give us a new year. The year that has just ended was difficult for some of us. There were struggles and frustrations and disappointments that we did not handle so well. Give us a better mentality and better spiritual insight that will help us deal with the issues that will come in this New Year.

Father, give us a new year. Give us a year filled with new ministries, new opportunities, new voices, and new messages. Help us hold on to the old things that are worth holding and help us let go of the old things that have served their purpose.

Father, give us a new year. Give us a year that is not controlled by fear. A year in which we are not afraid of people who are different. A year when we are not afraid of ideas that are new, of plans that are new, and places that are new.

Father, give us a new year. Give us a year filled with new love. A new love for You. A new love for each other. A new love for Your Kingdom. A new love for strangers. A new love for the helpless. A new love for the needy. A new love for poor. A new love for rich. A new love for all people.

Father, give us a new year. Help us put the old one to bed. Help us to leave the things of the past in the past. Help us look forward. Help us look beyond what we can see to what You have planned for us that we cannot see. Help us move forward with confidence and courage and humility and gentleness.

Father, give us a new year. Help us, in this New Year to completely surrender to You and what You have planned for us in this year filled with new things.



had the doctor's perform an emergency Caesarian.

I am also grateful AND thankful to have a wonderful mother and father, of which care for my child on a day to day basis while I work, AT NO COST! Not only is he receiving the attention that he so desperately needs, but also the love and affection that he would not be receiving if he were enrolled at a local daycare center. THANKS MOM AND DAD!

I also would like to thank God for allowing me to sign my OWN name on a Brand New 2007 Toyota Camry, WITHOUT having to have a co-signer. THAT FELT SO GOOD!

Last but not least, I prayed for a new job so that I could leave my current job, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of MS. My old boss from when I first started at BCBSMS was resigned to go be a Manager at ACS, which is a Medicaid affiliate, and called me to come and work on her team with her!!! Today was my last day at Blue Cross Blue Shield of MS!

So many others things are present in my life that I could go on and on about - just wanted to share a few with you!

P.S. See the picture below of my baby! Samuel Blake Bender, II



HEDGE OF PROTECTION

PRAISE REPORT Bonnie Gordon

Sent: 11/28/2007 - I have a Praise report that actually came on the scene about three to four months ago. Before I started reading

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the Hedge of Protection Prayer Page I was having Left Knee Pain with Swelling and Inflammation.

The Pain, Swelling and Inflammation are now gone! Praise God for His Healing Power. I read this Hedge of Protection Prayer Page daily regardless of what time or how late ... along with my Bible. The Effectual Fervent Prayers of the Righteous Availeth Much. God Bless You.

Original Prayer Request: Sent: 11/21/07 -Please add Eunice Thrasher to your prayer list. She is scheduled to have her Gall Bladder removed and a liver biopsy on November 22.

Sent: Saturday, November 24, 2007 7:35 P M Subject: Prayer Request Update on Eunice Thrasher from Carolyn Cooper

As you know Eunice had surgery earlier this week. The original intent of the surgery was to remove her Gall Bladder and do a Liver Biopsy. While performing these surgical procedures they discovered an inflamed growth on her colon and removed it as well.

Eunice was then prematurely released from the hospital and developed a fever accompanied by pain. She is back in St. Vincent's Hospital in Little Rock, AR. I visited her today and would like to report that she was still in pain and required pain relief medication. I just spoke with Eunice by phone and found that she was in good spirit for the most part but was concerned about the outcome of the biopsy.

Let's pray for the speedy recovery of our sister Eunice, a recovery that will astonish the doctors. We need to focus our prayers on the healing of the colon area in which the growth was removed as well as peace of mind regarding the Liver Biopsy. All is well. Praise God. All is well with Eunice.

Sent: Monday, November 26, 2007 7:02 PM - Subject: Prayer Request Update - Eunice

Thrasher - NO CANCER! The results of our sister Eunice's Liver Biopsy was negative for cancer. Praise His Holy Name! She is still experiencing some pain around the incision where the growth was removed from her colon. Please stay focused on the quick healing of that area of the colon. She is in excellent spirit especially after hearing of the biopsy report. Now let's get Eunice home!

Update Sent: 12/6/07, I am pleased to report that Eunice went home from the hospital last week and is doing just fine. She thanks you for all of your prayers. Our God Still Reigns!

A SOUND MIND Jannice Horton

God is so good. I have never eaten so much in one month in my entire life. Busy, busy, busy. So busy I have not had a chance to rest until this week. So busy that I was coming from the store and pass by my house. So busy, I put leftover chicken in the cabinet thinking I have placed it in the refrigerator. So busy, I was leaving Wal-Mart and forgot which section I had parked my van.

To make a long story short, I thought I was loosing it, but God. The enemy had me thinking I was suffering from Alzheimer's, stroke, and a heart attack. Also I had eaten some shrimps and had an allergic reaction, all within a two week span. It just so happened the Bishop and head of Catholic Charities, Jackson, of which I am employed, was giving his Christmas dinner and the company was invited.

Some of us attended mass first. It was my first Catholic experience, but I was feeling so bad. All day I was quoting healing scriptures. Anyway after the Bishop's sermon, communion was offered. I thought, this would complete my healing that I was declaring. I wanted to go to the dinner but did not know how they did things and did not want to be embarrassed.

My supervisor, who is catholic ask if I was going I shook my head no. She said come on; all you have to do is thank the Bishop. So I went on and took communion and saints I want you to know as soon as I got back to my seat I felt 100% better.

If you had felt what I was feeling and the battle that was going on in my mind, you would say, "Nothing but God," could turn a seemingly hopeless situation around so immediately. To God be the glory!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Home Bible Workshop Schedule



Mark your calendars for the months January & February 2008. Please join us and take the next step in your walk with God.

January 12

5:00 P.M. CST "From Meditation To Manifestation" Includes Nationwide Video Conferencing

February 9

5:00 P.M. CST "From Meditation To Manifestation" Includes Nationwide Video Conferencing

1ST QUARTER TELECONFERENCE

January 26, 2008 8:00 A M. CST Toll Free Dial-In Number 1-888-422-7124 Participant Code: 730940

The GOD Effect of Prayer

6:00 P.M. HOUR OF PRAYER



SPEND TIME PRAYING FOR OTHERS

Use this wonderful supernatural tool the Lord has blessed us with the 6 o'clock hour of power. This is the time to intercede for the needs of others, the concerns of the ministry, and to pray for the leadership within our community, our nation, and our world.

Hearts throbbing as one, prayers ascending to heaven multiplied by those praying in one accord. Sharing burdens, joys, and petitions to bear. Lay all your cares at the foot of the cross and encourage others to do the same. Lives are being changed. Breakthroughs are happening.

WEBSITE OFFERINGS

MESSAGE EXCEPTS www.mcclainministries.org

GOD'S AMAZING GRACE

Grace is what God has already done for us, independent of any worth or value on our part. If it's tied to some goodness of ours, then it's not true grace. God, by grace, has already provided everything we will ever need.

Our faith doesn't move God. If God hasn't already moved by His grace, then our faith can't make Him. Faith simply appropriates what God has already provided by grace. If He's already provided our needs by His grace, then faith is just our positive response to what God has already done —

not something we do to get God to respond to us.

We have to know that God has already done His part and that any delay in our manifestation is not His fault. That will keep us in faith. Remember that faith is our positive response to what God has already done by grace.

If you aren't experiencing the abundance that you know the Lord wants you to have, then I can guarantee you that the revelation you need is in this message. This is the type of teaching that you will want and need to read again and again until it becomes true revelation knowledge to you.

KEYS TO RELEASING GOD'S HEALING POWER

Just when you thought you knew all there was to know about healing. Here is a fresh word from God.

Would you like to see the blind receive their sight or the lame walk when you pray? Do you desperately need healing yourself? Here's the good news—whether you're praying for another's healing or receiving your own, it's available to every true follower of Christ! Jesus gave every disciple who believes the power and authority to do the same works that He did. What a statement! But it is absolutely true. John 14:12 says, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."

All believers will do the same works that Jesus did; it's not limited to ministers. There's just a shortage of believing believers.

How do you get to the place where you can see the miraculous happen in and through you?

It starts with the renewing of your mind. Faith is based on knowledge, and everything we need to know to be a victorious Christian is explained in God's Word.

KEYS TO RELEASING GOD'S HEALING POWER - PART II

Once we are healed, God's healing never leaves our lives. We may quit walking in that anointing, but God didn't take that healing back. It's still there. So, if sickness returns, it's not time to plead with God for healing again but time to get ourselves back into what God has already given us. If we lose the joy of the Lord, God didn't take it away, we simply quit focusing on the things that released God's joy in our lives in the first place.

All we have to do to get it again is go back to where we left it and get back on track.

BODY & SOUL REDEMPTION CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

Did you know that a Christian can actually die from sickness or disease while the same power that raised Jesus from the dead lies dormant within them? Or, did you know that a believer can be overcome with depression, anger, and bitterness all the while possessing God's love, joy, and peace in their spirit?

It's true, they can and they do. Why? Because they really don't understand what changed when they were born again and therefore have difficulty receiving the promises of God. The Bible says that every born-again believer has undergone a complete inner transformation.

God's Word clearly teaches that we are three-part beings, but very few Christians have a functional understanding of spirit, soul, and body in their daily lives. Intellectually, most Christians believe they're a three-part being, but functionally, they act as though they're only made up of body and soul. They're confused about the operation of the soul and spirit, seeing them basically as the same thing.

If you were talking to me face to face, you'd be seeing my body but speaking to my soul. The word "soul" is defined by some as your mind, will, and emotions, and while that's certainly true, it's incomplete. Your "conscience" should also be included in that definition. Your soul is really what most people call their personalities.

You can feel both your body and your soul and are receiving information from them all the time. For example, if I put my hand on your shoulder, you would know that I touched you through your physical senses. I could also make you feel happy or sad, or could even hurt you without any physical contact but simply by the words I speak. Those words are processed by your mind and the result of their effect is often expressed in your emotions.

It's easy to know how your body feels, what's going on in your mind and what emotions you're experiencing. However, your spirit is much different; it cannot be accessed in any natural way. John 3:6 says, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

OVERCOMING DOUBT

No one is immune to doubt. It can and does happen to us all. You've just got to know how to handle it when it comes. Even the greatest men and women of God recorded in the Bible had to deal with doubt. Jesus said of John the Baptist, "Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11). Jesus than Abraham, Joseph, Moses, David, or any Old Testament character you can name. Yet John doubted the most important thing of all by questioning whether Jesus was really the Christ.

John the Baptist had been cast into prison for criticizing Herod about marrying his brother's wife, an incestuous relationship.

He had been there sometime between six months and two years and became so discouraged that he asked two of his disciples to go to Jesus and ask Him if He really was the Christ. It's easy to read that and not think much about it, but the truth is, it was nothing but unbelief on the part of John the Baptist.

BEYOND THE PHYSICAL REALM

Even in the natural world, we have come to realize that there are things that do exist that we can't see. We can not see the wind; only the result of the wind. We can not see radio signals, but they do exist. In fact, wherever you are right now, there are radio signals right there with you. If you say "No there aren't" just because you can't see or hear them, that doesn't mean they don't exist. They do exist, they are just unseen. They are unseen realities. They are real.

Likewise, God is real and does exist. He is broadcasting all His power and blessings 24/7. It's never God's transmitter that is broken. It's always our receiver that is the problem. If we ask God for something and we don't see it manifest instantly, most people question why God hasn't answered their prayer yet. They assume that because they haven't seen or heard anything, nothing has happened. That's just plain wrong ...

A HARDEN HEART BLOCKS YOUR BLESSINGS

A hard heart is characterized by an inability to perceive spiritual things.

That means John was greater in the sight of

McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

This describes a person who just doesn't have an aptitude for spiritual things. Others seem to perceive things that a person with a hard heart can't. A hard heart will also keep a person from understanding the few things they can perceive. They might see what the Lord is trying to show them, but they can't get a hold of it in a way that they can apply it to their life.

When a person is hardhearted toward God, it's like they are spiritually blind and deaf; they just can't see spiritual truth or hear the Lord speak to them. And they can't remember. That last one is a major indication of the condition of their heart.

LOVE UNLEASHES FAITH

So many are praying for healing, deliverance, and prosperity. We want joy, peace, and happiness in our homes. We want better relationships with family and friends, especially during the Christmas season. However, the answer to seeing these needs and desires met is all wrapped up in receiving God's love and then walking in that love toward others.

When we struggle to believe that God's promises to us will come to pass, that's unbelief; but the root of that unbelief is a lack of love. Galatians 5:6 says faith works by love. That means love is the driving force behind our faith. Remove or diminish love and faith ceases to be what it should be. Many of us try hard to believe when we should be seeking a greater revelation of God's love for us. Then, faith would just naturally work.

"LET THE LIGHT OF JESUS SHINE"





"The Year In Review"

Newsletter New Look

Quarterly Teleconferences

Business Plan Training

National Bulletin Board Parties

National Bulletin Board Synergy Session

Entrepreneur Training

Computer Clinic

New Website Features

Internet Radio Station Programming

Monthly Dedicated Prayer Time

Christian Word Ministries Free Prayer Books

Burkina Faso Africa Girl's School Project

Home Bible Workshop

Nationwide Video Conferencing

Thanks for 2007

Let's Have a Greater



THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP



I am so thankful our paths have crossed. In fact, I believe it was a divine appointment. Over twenty - five years ago, an encounter with God changed my live forever, and I believe He'll do the same for you. I consider it a privilege to have the opportunity to share the truth of His life-changing power and grace with you.

God called me to teach the truth of the Gospel to the body of Christ with special emphasis on God's unconditional love and the balance between grace and faith. At McClain Ministries we are working diligently to fulfill that call by training others and by developing ministry materials designed to help you in your relationship with the Lord.

Your interest in partnership is evidence of the fact that not only has this ministry affected your life, but you also have a desire to help someone else and believe this message can provide that help. Together, through partnership, you and I can reach thousands of people with the good news of the Gospel.

I believe the message the Lord has entrusted me to deliver will change the way the body of Christ perceives God. However, it doesn't matter how important the message is or how well I deliver it, until the message is sent, no one will hear. Partnership makes the delivery possible.

The Apostle Paul understood his role as the messenger, but he also understood that partnership was not only about what he received but what the partners received as well. In Philippians 4:19 he wrote, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." This was written by Paul to his partners. The Philippians were the only ones who supported him after leaving town. In fact, they wanted to give more but didn't have the opportunity. Paul was saying that there is a special provision for those who recognize the power in partnership.

For me, it has never been about "you" supporting "my" ministry. If you're a partner, then consider this our ministry, and together we will accomplish God's will. In fact, I'm an extension of you and your obedience to God. Like Paul, I'm just the messenger that God has called for a specific purpose. If I fulfill that call, the fruit will be evident to everyone, and if I don't, then God will find another messenger and direct your support to that person.

Although I am committed to doing my part to bring revival to America, we have an awesome opportunity to make a big difference in people's lives around the world. Our current projects must be funded by those of us who are more blessed.

Do you remember when you first began to partake of the message from this ministry and how it affected your life? There are thousands just like you all over the world, waiting to hear the truth that will set them free. Will you help us? Together, we can do it.

You may never realize what your gifts accomplish during your life on earth, but I can promise that in eternity, people from all over the world will thank you for your investment in their lives. I want to thank you in advance for your consideration and response.

Please make your gifts payable to McClain Ministries. All funds given for Community Outreach projects will be used for that purpose exclusively until the projects are fully funded. Any surplus will then be applied to the McClain Ministries general account.

HERE ARE OUR SIX CURRENT PROJECTS:

Computer Clinic

Tutoring Classes

Community Pantry

National Bulletin Board Service

Internet Radio Station

Girls School in Africa

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CATCH THE VISION OF OUR GIRL'S SCHOOL IN AFRICA

Our Girls & Their Families Receive Expert Training in Planting Their Community Gardens















AFRICAN SCHOOL PROJECT

Our goal is fourfold:

1. Build a school that includes 4 classrooms, 2 bathrooms and 1 administration office at a cost of approximately \$25,000.

2. Provide 300 Girl's Secondary School Scholarships at a cost of \$117,000

3. Supply 160 benches for the new school at a cost of \$6400

4. Supply 100 benches for existing schools at a cost of \$4000

Our total target goal for this project amounts to \$152,400.

Here is how you can help with this vital project:

School contributions: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 other _____

Scholarships:

\$75 (1 year of secondary school including uniforms)\$450 (6 years of secondary school)other _____

Benches: Bench for school \$40 *(specify no. of benches)*

Thank you in advance for your support!

Please send to:

McClain Ministries 1050 Ridgeside Drive Brandon, Ms 39042



	CLAI	N M	INIST	RIES	
Deuteronomy 16:17: Every man shall give as he is able according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee.					
This Ministry has been such a blessing to me I want to share in reaching others with a monthly gift of:					
□\$30	□\$40	□\$50	\$100	Other \$	
Enclosed is my ministry additional financial donation of: \$					
Total Enclose	ed: \$				
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Home Number					
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Fax Number					
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