VOLUME 4 GLORY TO THE TRINITY MINISTRY "SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT" "TESTIMONIES FOR THOUGHT"



JOHN 15: 5

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

GLORY TO THE TRINITY MINISTRY "SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT" E-MAIL ADDRESS: GLORYTOTHETRINITY@GMAIL.COM

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"TO GOD BE THE GLORY GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE"

BY FANNY CROSBY

" ONLY ONE LIFE, 'TWILL SOON BE PAST ONLY WHAT'S DONE FOR CHRIST WILL LAST"

BY C.T. STUD

A PERSONAL NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

The Holy Spirit has touched my heart to write these messages, since I last left my trip and God's work among the churches in Jakarta and Surabaya, Indonesia in January 2012. These messages will help born again believers to grow in the knowledge of the truths from God's words. Since, we are living in the end times where there are so much "confused gospel", it is essential to stick closely to God's words. May "THE SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT" messages be used to the glory of God.

I would like to thank our brother Bapak Abraham Immanuel and our sister Cik Swan for recommending our sister Rachel Francisca for some of the work of translation of this book. Also, I would like to thank our sister Rachel Francisca, Anroo my niece, and our brother Shandy Thio and James farlow Mendrofa for their work of translation from English into the Indonesian language. Their commitment and effort in the work of translation are deeply appreciated and eternally remembered by the Lord.

I would like to thank my sister Mega Melati and my brother Long Long in Jakarta for all the work of administration and coordination of printing; as well as my mother Ibu Ellyanna in the work of the ultimate distribution of copies of this book to all the churches in Indonesia.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my nephew Bryant Tanadjaya and Jacky Kiswanto for the designs and outlay of this book and all the computer work that made the compilation and the final printing possible. Also, I thank my son Isaac Chao in the work of editing as well.

May the Lord richly bless them for what they have done on the account of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for eternity.

Prayerfully yours, His servant Rosy Chao Sacramento, California USA

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am the light of the world: he that followeth me

shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.





LETTER 4

TO THE SAINTS IN CHRIST JESUS

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ Jesus,

Greeting you grace, mercy and peace from our Lord Jesus Christ. It is such a joy to be able to share with you once again! Amidst the ferocious battle, trials and tribulations for the year that has gone before us, comes the sweetness, the uncountable blessings and the goodness of our Lord.

The Holy Spirit has finally unveiled my dream vision that I had 10 years ago this year, as I returned from God's work from my own country, Indonesia. The visions together with the prophecy of God's words that were given to me 13 years ago, have revealed the magnificent revival that will sweep across the Island of Java starting from my birthplace Surabaya to Jakarta. The Lord God has orchestrated this powerful revival in my life, to do the work of John the Baptist to call my fellow countrymen to repentance as the coming of Christ is very soon. One of the prophecy that was given to me says:

"AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHALL BE REVEALED, AND ALL FLESH SHALL SEE IT TOGETHER: FOR THE MOUTH OF THE LORD HATH SPOKEN IT."

(Isaiah 40:5)

May we all pray with one heart and one mind for this powerful spiritual revival and repentance of our fellowmen to occur soon, for we are indeed living at the verge of the end times, revealed according to the signs of times as written in the Scripture.

As usual, my husband and I will be back at the end of this year to preach in different churches to witness for Jesus in the city of Surabaya and Jakarta. Please contact my mother Ibu Ellyanna (Surabaya tel: 3820-458) for our preaching schedule.

Prayerfully yours, His servant Rosy Chao

MY BRIEF AUTOBIOGRAPHY

I was born in Surabaya, in the island of Java, Indonesia in 1963. For generations, my family had been idol worshippers and practiced Buddhism. Like the Apostle Paul, it is God's grace that I was chosen, separated and sanctified by the Lord who trains me in the ways of truths through His words. Later, He revealed His plan for me to return to my own people to minister to their spiritual needs.

At the age of eleven, I was sent to Singapore for my English and Chinese education. When I was seventeen, I was born again of the spirit of God, and my life was drastically changed. Despite strong disapproval and persecution from my parents, I chose to follow Jesus my Lord and saviour. When I was nineteen, I had a near death experience and an instant miracle healing from the Lord that led me to vow to serve Him, if He would give me a chance to live. Despite my vow to serve the Lord, I was not "a cheerful giver" of myself unto Him, as I wanted to pursue my career as a successful business woman in the world.

Nonetheless, the Lord led me to America to pursue my education and finally graduated from the University of San Francisco. In the mean time, the Lord had marvelously arranged myself to meet two of the most powerful servants of the Lord. These two servants of the Lord, were both imprisoned in China for 20 years for their faith in Christ Jesus. It was through their help and their faithfulness in teaching me the truths from God's words for more than thirteen years, that I became acquainted with the truths from the words of God as a growing Christian. Their lifestyle of absolute faith and charity and their life of prayers have deeply left a permanent impression in my life. All of these are God's plan to prepare me for the ministry that was to be revealed unto me later.

At the age of forty three, the Lord had once again called me to serve Him instead of laboring for the "**meat which perishes**"(John 6:27). Despite His material blessings on my business, I felt the absolute emptiness of serving "mammon" and responded willingly unto the Lord.

As I willingly submitted and fulfilled my vow as being His servant, the Lord led me to the reality of the spiritual world. I had to go through the powerful attack of satan and experienced "the terror of Gethsemane" and His death on the cross and the presence of hell. I was to be put to the test of death twice in 3 years with His vision and His words as my warning from the Holy Spirit prior to satan's major attack on my body. As I fell very ill to the point of death, where the doctors could not figure out either what illness I had, my only hope was to remember God's word. His words of prophecy came to me as I was praying at 2 o'clock in the morning about God's work:

"BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH. THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT."

(ISAIAH 40:31)

As I was pondering about what strength I was going to lose, the first thing that came to my mind was probably to lose my spiritual strength. Hence after a couple months, I lost all physical strength as the doctor overdosed me with antibiotics and messed up my whole body. I could not get up and lost my energy for 9 months. My hormone and the functions of my organs were all messed up and I was swollen in my whole body. Finally, after my own research, I discovered that the illness that I contracted is called Chronic Fatigue Syndrome that conventional doctors do not know how to explain or heal.

As I lost all my energy, my only hope was the words of God. As I went through this illness, my faith was to be put to test and praise God my only strength was trusting in His words of prophecy. To cut the story short, 9 months later I regained my strength. However, because I did not overcome victoriously this test of death, I was given another vision where I had to be put to another test of death 6 months later. By this time, I had finally overcame the test of death and submitted to the Lord my little son who was barely 3.5 years old, to go to be with the Lord. My heaviest weight in my heart was to leave my son without a mother since he was so young. Hence, I finally trusted him into God's hand as I overcame the fear of death victoriously when the Holy Spirit spoke to me that:

" HE THAT LOVETH SON OR DAUGHTER MORE THAN ME IS NOT WORTHY OF ME."

(MATTHEW 10:37)

As the Holy Spirit spoke these words to me, I wept and surrendered my all to Jesus my Lord and Savior. Little did I realize, that these tests of death not only did not kill me but instead, I was filled by the full presence of the Holy Spirit and marked me as His servant as He healed me. This heavy pruning was the most powerful tool of the Lord to bloom me spiritually closer to God as " THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES" as the words of God prophecy. Thereafter, I am given the gift of a prophet and the spirit of discernment where I am able to detect the presence of satan instantly. Hallelujah, praise be the name of our Lord, for He is always victorious that promise!!

The book of Job and his experiences became mine and Ezekiel chapter 1 where the Cherubs came out of fire that represent the victory of the test of faith as God's servant has been endorsed upon me.

Finally, the visions of the Lord came to me, as I was praying asking Him if He approved of me going to downtown Sacramento to share the gospel of Jesus Christ among the Blacks and Hispanic or Caucasian Americans homeless people. At night, I saw a vision of myself in a church among men of Asian origin where I was told to stand up and said in my mouth: "like the Apostle Paul, I was born again of the spirit of God…"

Later, my Caucasian American neighbor invited me to his church where I told him that the Lord does not lead me to do the spiritual work among the westerners but the easterners. Nonetheless, at his request, I would petition before the Lord. As I went to pray about this matter, the word of the Lord came to me that said:

"WHEREFORE GLORIFY YE THE LORD IN THE EAST AND FIRES, EVEN THE NAME OF THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL IN THE ISLES OF THE SEA."

(ISAIAH 24:15)

Having received this answer to my prayer, I am again confirmed by the Lord to do God's work among the easterners rather than the westerners. What puzzled my mind was: "where are the isles of sea in the East?"

After being healed from these major illnesses, the Lord told me to return to the land of my father since I have not been home for 10 years. It was at this time, that I prayed to the Lord God to save my mother from the power of darkness of her Buddhism, which she had devoted to all her life. To this the Lord had agreed and my mother was saved and became a born again Christian after 28 years of my prayers. My father was also saved after 20 years of prayers. Once again, praise God for His grace and mercy. Finally, my eyes were opened by the Holy Spirit that the isles of the sea in the East is none other than my own birth place Indonesia, which is the largest archipelago in the whole world that refers to country that made up of islands located in the East. How amazing and accurate are the words of our Lord God!

Later, I recalled that when I just barely graduated from school in America, I had spent time praying for my country Indonesia; since there are millions of precious souls that needed the gospel of Jesus Christ. Little did I realize that God has answered this prayer by sending me back to labor among my own people.

There are so many prayers and testimonies in my life that God had answered. God is always faithful to His words of promise. Indeed, I can only claim as the Apostle Paul says: " for me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21), "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."(Galatians 2:20)

Prayerfully yours, His servant Rosy Chao Sacramento, California USA



"THE YOUNG LIONS DO LACK, AND SUFFER HUNGER: BUT THEY THAT SEEK THE LORD SHALL NOT WANT ANY GOOD THING."

PSALM 34:10

MY JOURNEY FOR GOD'S WORK IN INDONESIA

The year 2014 was the year of God's continuing **amazing grace** for me. There are just no words that can describe what the Lord had done magnificently at every single missionary trip. The battle between the light and the power of darkness continued ferociously. However, the Lord who is always victorious, accompanied me throughout his work as I began to preach and witness from churches to churches.

Every year, satan would attack us with all kinds of hindrances the moment we arrive in Indonesia; whether it is in the city of Jakarta or Surabaya. Amidst these attacks comes the manifestation of the **'amazing power' of our Heavenly Father** who continue to patrol, protect and guard us with the Angels as I and my husband delivered His messages among the Churches.

Last year, as we arrived in the airport in Jakarta, we were stranded for 3 hours for the reason that a pipe broke and flooded the road leading to a major traffic jam close to the airport. As a result, what usually would take 20 minutes or half an hour to my sister Mega's house, ends up taking 2.5 or 3 hours. What a welcome from the enemy!

Likewise, few years ago when I arrived in the city of Surabaya, Satan would obstruct our way by causing my Father who was about to pick us from the airport with 'an ugly attack' of almost a fatal accident. It so happen that a lady motorcyclist fell right in front of my father's car that could have been deadly. However, the amazing hand of the Lord all of a sudden had the power to overturn that lady motorcyclist to fall onto the opposite direction for some reason. Hence my father was protected and spared from the fatal accident by the Lord that could be a disaster. All of these happened when my father was trying to pick us from the airport to do God's work.

In another year, when we arrived in the city of Surabaya to do God's work, we were met with terrible floods everywhere. What was amazing was the fact that my father wanted to drive us with his Mercedes to the church where I was supposed to preach and share for God's work. For some reason, my father could not find the key to his Mercedes Benz. He would call our driver for the key and search high and low for it, but could not find it. Hence, I told my dad to just use our old van that is much higher than the Mercedes Benz in terms of height, as we will be otherwise late. As we entered the road towards the church, we were met with flood that could have stranded us if we were to drive with the Mercedes. Praise God as my father realized that it was the Lord that protected us and not want us to take the Mercedes. Upon returning from the church, my father discovered that the key was on the Mercedes Benz itself! How amazing that our Lord is actively looking after the welfare of His children, as we do his work to His Glory!

Indeed, amidst all of these attacks from satan, it is such a joy to labor for Jesus. Without question, the year 2014 for God's work was awesome! The doors of more churches were opened even at the last minute, prior to leaving the United States for God's work. There were more miracles that continued to open our spiritual insight to the truths of God's words.

Most of all, the work of the Holy Spirit continues to be equally amazing. Much to my surprise, the Holy Spirit had saved and revived many churches and fellow believers with tears of repentance more than ever before. May the **burning zeal of the love of Jesus of the Pentecost** sweep across the churches of Indonesia my fellow countrymen soon!

BETHEL JOSHUA CHINESE CHURCH IN JAKARTA

The door of this church was amazingly opened on the last minute as we were leaving the United States. Pastor Hsu and his wife sister Thung Thung are a very humble couple that shepherd this church and fellow believers are mostly from Mainland China or Taiwan.

What caught me by surprise were their warmth and the zeal of the church. Not only Pastor Hsu and sister Thung Thung love the Lord and their church, the Chinese young men and women were truly hungry and thirsty spiritually, seeking the Lord with their heart. They were so earnest and sincere in their quest for truth that many came to receive Christ.

As satan attacked hard in this church, the Holy Spirit also began to work magnificently. At the end of my preaching, all of them stood up to confess their sins with me. As I begin to lead them in the confession of sins, satan began to attack by cutting off my microphone, the sound system with the electricity altogether. As a result, we were left completely in the dark room without the sound system and the light altogether. Despite the sudden blackout, everyone continued to pray aloud with me and confessed their sins with one heart and one mind. As we closed and finished our prayers with 'amen', the light and the sound system was restored immediately. Upon asking sister Thung Thung whether they had any electrical problem in the past, she replied that it had never happened before! The obvious satan's attack was counteracted by the salvation of many and the amazing work of the Holy Spirit.

At the end of my preaching, I requested those who came to Christ for the first time to stand up and witness for Jesus.

There was this young man from China that came forward to share as to how he came to Christ that night. He mentioned that the reason he came to church was because he did not want to be left home alone. That night he came to accept Jesus as his personal Saviour because he saw a bright light and a halo shining over my head and my shoulder as well as the back of my neck. Praise God for opening his eyes! Praise God for saving Him! Hallelujah for Christ presence over 'His handmaiden' as I preached and testified but the truths of God's words to the Church! Also, there was one more a young lady that got saved that stood up and declared that it was time for her to be saved. Praise God for the work of the Holy Spirit in this church!

Later after the fellowship, there were two other women that personally prayed with me and confessed their sins and genuinely accepted Jesus as their personal saviour. As the words of the Lord says:

"BLESSED ARE THEY WHICH DO HUNGER AND THIRST AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEY SHALL BE FILLED." (Matthew 5:6)

In this church, I had to spend quite a few hours, much more than normal preaching time, as they yearned to hear more testimonies of our Lord God, who is truly living and amazing. May the Lord bless this church and bloom the seeds that were sown in their hearts. Amen.

THE FELLOWSHIP IN MY SISTER'S HOUSE

Despite the smaller numbers of gatherings in my sister's home, there are very precious souls that have been saved. There was one sister and her two daughters that were genuinely saved to the glory of God. This sister had been attending a big congregation of a famous church in Jakarta for 7 years. Yet deep in her heart, she sensed something was not right in her relationship to God. That evening, she was the lost sheep that our Lord Jesus came to save. As I shared and help her to confess her sins, she was found by the Lord and was born again of the spirit of God instantly. She had wept in tears and truly repented of her sins without a doubt, the Angels in Heaven rejoices over a sinner that has repented and a lost sheep that was finally found! Amen.

Another precious testimony is a brother who is also a servant of the Lord that needed spiritual help. When I was in America, the Lord had unveiled to me about his spiritual needs and had called his name three times in my ears. Praise God for delivering this brother to be set free from his spiritual needs and restored to his first love for Jesus! Amen.

After returning from the work of the Lord in Surabaya, I had one day transit staying in my sister's house, before returning to the United States. In that same day, a young man was saved. While I was still laboring with another family, I had to be called to my sister's home to share the truth to this young man. Praise God, at 11.30 PM this young man came to his knees to repent and accept Christ as his personal saviour. Even though I was physically exhausted and struggled with time, my heart was filled with joy for seeing so many precious souls saved and entering into God's kingdom.

THE WORK IN PALEM CHURCH JAKARTA

There were 3 services in the Palem Church that I had to preach on Sunday. Satan had continued to attack my exhausted body beyond measure. To begin with, I was not physically doing well and as I finished preaching from the Chinese Church and returned past midnight to my sister's house to rest, satan began to attack me. The next door neighbor's dog next to my bedroom, began to bark non-stop until morning. Obviously, I was left with little sleep and no rest physically whatsoever. Consequently, I had to trust the Holy Spirit to come to my aid as far as my physical strength was concerned. Amidst such battle, the Holy Spirit continued to work among fellow believers in the 3 services that I preached. There was a young lady who shed much tears and prayed with me personally. The zeal and the hunger for truths of the words of God from fellow believers were reflected in the numbers of "Spiritual Food For Thought" books that were sold and depleted the stock. May the Lord continue to bless this church and the Pastor Samuel and his wife Ibu wiwie to faithfully labor in the name of our Lord Jesus.

Ibu Wiwie the sister who loves the Lord and her sheep that shepherds this church, had also encouraged them in purchasing these spiritual books for their spiritual edification. May the Lord continue to bless Palem Church to His glory!

THE WORK OF GOD IN THE CITY OF SURABAYA

In my mother's house, there are quite a number for the gatherings and at the end of the preaching, there were some who stood up with a request for prayers. There was a young man from Peking China that accepted the Lord and was saved as well.

In sister Jing Fang's home, we had fellowship with less than fifty people. What amazed me was the work of the Holy Spirit this time. At the end of my preaching, except for a few, pretty much all stood up to repent, confessed their sins and request for prayers.

In my brother's Jimmy's home, Bryant my nephew had invited some friends to have a small gatherings and fellowship as we studied the Bible together. At the end of the Bible study, most of them accepted Christ and prayed with me individually. Also I had prayed and helped a young pastor with his spiritual needs. May the Lord continue to bless His own work in my brother's home.

DULOS MENTAL HOSPITAL IN SURABAYA

I had always loved the young men and women in this mental hospital. My deepest sincere desire is to see them set free from the power of darkness that had enslaved them. Many came to accept Christ at the end of my preaching. May the Lord continues to work in their heart and bless the work that our brother Pak Frederick and sister Ibu Yuli who pours their heart in this mental hospital.

JKI KUASA MUJIZAT CHURCH

This church is shepherd by Pastor Sumber and his wife Susi, a loving godly cheerful couple who had faithfully labored for the Lord. I had preached in this church twice during this moment of time. The Holy Spirit continued to work in fellow believers, bringing them to repentance. There was one young man that Pastor Sumber and myself had prayed together to cast out the unbelievable numbers of demons. The young man was demonically possessed to the nastiest degree and was filled with many kinds of sins. In his past, he had played all types of video games and got involved with the power of darkness through fortune telling etcetera. When I told him to confess his sins, at first he was not willing to genuinely open his heart. However, towards the end of our prayer as we concluded **in the name of Jesus**, he began to vomit and throw out the demons from his mouth.

The Lord God had opened my eyes to witness the power of sins as the presence of satan, as this young man began to throw out the demon from his throat through his mouth. Every single sin that he confessed was accompanied by **vomiting** the demon and his food into the wastebasket. There were times Pastor Sumber had to threaten the demon in **'the name of Jesus to the lake of fire to be burned'**, before the devil that was stuck on his throat (causing the young man to choke), finally vomited out the demon from his mouth and left him. What a pathetic scenario for this young man who continued to throw up the demon in his cold sweat all over his face! After a couple hours, I had to leave to preach in another church, leaving Pastor Sumber helping the young man by himself. May the Lord set free this young man to genuinely believe Jesus. May the Lord continue to bless Pastor Sumber, sister Susi and their church with the burning love of Jesus! Amen.

REHOBOT CHURCH

This Church received a big spiritual blessing this time when I came to preach! Hallelujah for the work of the Holy Spirit! At the end of my preaching, almost everyone was spiritually revived and stood up for prayers and confessions of sins. Praise God as our sister Ibu Maria had decided to personally offer to buy "the spiritual food for thought" books for all her sheep. May the Lord continue to bless her on the account of her love for Jesus and her sheep. May the Lord continue to bless fellow believers in Rehobot Church and Ibu Maria to shine forth for Jesus wherever they are! Amen.

HAPPY FAMILY CHURCH

This is a home church and my first time preaching in this home. Ibu Lilik is the sister who is the shepherd for this church. She has a burning zeal and the love for the Lord. Praise God as I share and witness in this church, some stood up to accept Christ.

GPPS KUNTISARI

The Lord had been very gracious upon us on this church. Undoubtedly, satan had been attacking us, as we still could not easily locate this church again on the Sunday morning I was preaching. By the time, we found this church, we were very late for the preaching. However, our Heavenly Father in His wisdom had orchestrated in such a way that the schedule for my preaching was confused with another preacher. Hence, even though I came in late, there was already someone preaching in my place. Praise God for His provision and someone to feed the sheep. Nonetheless, I had only half an hour to preach. Despite such a brief period of time, some stood up to accept Christ at the end of my preaching. Pastor Loe Samuel and his wife Ibu Laniwati are very friendly and a humble couple and together they shepherd this church.

GBI PONDOK ANUGRAH CHURCH

This church was my last preaching in the city of Surabaya, prior to returning to the United States via Jakarta. This was my very first time preaching in this church. This was a medium size church that the Holy Spirit was equally working upon in the hearts of fellow believers. Praise God at the end of my preaching, many stood up in tears of repentance. May the Lord continue to bless the seed that was sewn in this church.

MY FINAL AMAZING PERSONNEL WORK TO HIS GLORY

Finally my dearly beloved, prior to leaving Surabaya to Jakarta and returning to the United States was the precious gifts of two precious souls saved at 10 PM at night. This story was so amazing as it all started as I was praying over an apartment that was very quiet for me and my husband to rent for two weeks while doing God" work. My husband who was always logical, was worried as we have no proper place to live while doing God's work in Surabaya. However, I told my husband that the Lord would prepare a place for us when we arrived in Surabaya. The very first night we arrived in Surabaya, we had to stay in 2 small rooms in a motel in Surabaya. Then I began to pray to the Lord for 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms apartment around Kenjeran area that was quiet and yet close to my mother's house. I had petitioned that God would provide the apartment that was quiet and the same price as two of our hotel rooms. Hence the next day, after I made my prayer by faith, my mother and I began to search around the area an apartment for us to stay. I had every faith that God would always honor my prayers. My mother and I had spent a few hours looking from an apartment complex after complex but to no avail! At the end of the day, after seeing one last apartment that is super filthy, we had decided that it's time to quit searching since its past 5 PM.

All of a sudden, a broker called to tell us that he had found a beautiful apartment but would only show us the next day. Praise God for **His Amazing provision!** Just as I had prayed, God gave me exactly how I prayed for: 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms at the same price of my motel rooms. This was literally impossible to find since according to the broker all the three bedrooms in general had only 1 bathroom. The very fact that the owner had bought 2 units and combined them together, had turned the apartment into 3 bed and 2 bathrooms. Furthermore apart from being quiet, this apartment is located at the highest floor, where I can to see the beautiful view of the whole city of Surabaya with no mosquitos to battle with as last year. What a surprise gift from the Lord!

What was even more amazing were the Lady owner and her daughter, who came to my mother's house and prayed with me and were saved 10PM at night prior to leaving for Jakarta the next day. Our Lord God in His wisdom, not only got me the place that I had desired and more than I had prayed for but more importantly, God had also saved both the lady landlord and her daughter.

Once again, praise God for such a magnificent revelation and provision of His hands of mercy upon His children and Hallelujah for the lost sheep to find! **How Amazing!**

Prayerfully yours, His servant Rosy Chao Sacramento, California USA

BETHEL JOSHUA CHINESE CHURCH IN JAKARTA



Photo taken after Saturday evening fellowship shepherd by Pastor Hsu (most right, in red).

REHOBOT CHURCH IN SURABAYA



Photo taken after preaching and fellowship.

JKI KUASA MUJIZAT CHURCH IN SURABAYA



Photo after Sunday service with Pastor Sumber (most right, back row).

JKI KUASA MUJIZAT CHURCH IN SURABAYA



Middle, front row; Hoa, Pak Anton, Ibu Ellyanna (my parents), Rosy Chao, sister Susi, Pastor Sumber (behind) and the church.

FELLOWSHIP IN MY PARENT'S HOME IN SURABAYA



DULOS MENTAL HOSPITAL IN SURABAYA



Front row: Paoline, Pak Fredrick, Rosy Chao, Ibu Ellyanna, Ibu Yuli.

GPPS KUNTISARI CHURCH IN SURABAYA



Triphena, Pastor Purwadi, Ibu Ellyanna, Rosy Chao, Pastor Loe Samuel, Ibu Laniwati (wife), Ong Khang Chuen (Triphena's husband) and son.

GBI PONDOK ANUGRAH CHURCH IN SURABAYA



Picture taken after Sunday worship.

Therefore I say unlo you, Take no thought for your life, What ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; Nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, And the body than raiment?

Behold the fowls of the air: For they sow not, Neither do they reap,

Nor gather into bains Yet your heavenly Father feedel Are ye not much better than they?

Matthew 6:25, 26

MESSAGE 1

IS YOUR ALL ON THE ALTAR OF SACRIFICE LAID?

As God's children, do you know that we are given the privilege of offering unto the Lord? Offerings are considered as expressions of our love for our Lord. It is a deep felt gratitude for what he has done for us on the cross. It is an opportunity to give to our Lord in return for the blessings that He has given us. It is simply an act of joy and an honor bringing our very best unto the altar of our Master and our Lord. In return, our genuine offerings will be accepted as absolute sweet savours unto the Lord. It is the eternal treasures that we have laid up in Heaven for us to discover with delight surprise someday, for what we have done for our Lord! How could we refuse such privilege of genuine offerings unto the Lord?

Generally speaking, there are many kinds of offerings that we have given unto the Lord. Many Christians have offered their tithe unto the Lord, some have offered their time to labor for Jesus, while others have given "the hidden quiet work of prayers" for others as an offering unto the Lord etceteras.

Indeed, our Lord has instructed and has given all of His children a chance to offer the very best unto Him. Consequently, the fundamental criteria for all genuine sacred offerings lie in **"what is within our heart"**. For sacred offerings to be acceptable before God, it must be done on the basis of an absolute pure heart for God. It is a heart that is filled with a pure love for Jesus, a heart that is void of sins. It is a heart that is controlled by the Holy Spirit with faith, that our offerings will be accepted as a sweet smelling savour unto our Lord. Finally, it is a heart that is purely motivated on the basis of offering our all for Him, a living sacrifice of our body, soul and mind, our utmost to His glory!

Basically, there are two kinds of sacred offerings that are unveiled in the Scripture. It is either the offerings of 'Malachi' or the 'offering of Mary's ointment'. The huge difference between these 2 offerings lies in the attitude of our hearts towards God. The book of Malachi records of sacred offerings that are 'blemish' and 'polluted' before the Lord. The sacred offerings include the sacrifice of an animal that is 'blind', 'lame' and 'sick' as well as 'polluted bread' before the Lord. As a result, it is a sacred offering that has become contemptible in God's sight as the book of Malachi writes as follows:

"YE OFFER POLLUTED BREAD UPON MINE ALTAR; AND YE SAY, WHEREIN HAVE WE POLLUTED THEE? IN THAT YE SAY, THE TABLE OF THE LORD IS CONTEMPTIBLE." " AND IF YE OFFER THE BLIND FOR SACRIFICE, IS IT NOT EVIL? AND IF YE OFFER THE LAME AND SICK, IS IT NOT EVIL? OFFER IT NOW UNTO THY GOVERNOR; WILL HE BE PLEASED WITH THEE, OR ACCEPT THY PERSON? SAITH THE LORD OF HOSTS."

(Malachi 1:7,8)

There are many Christians today that have given the 'Malachi offerings' unto the Lord, whether intentionally or vice versa. As a matter of fact, there are many God's children who are in the spiritual leadership role of either a pastor, a deacon, an elder and preachers alike that take after and contributed the 'Malachi offerings' as well. It is a pity to note, that such offerings no matter how much of a dollar or time spent will not be acceptable or remembered by the Lord, since they are contemptible offerings!

Let us take a look at the detail of the 'Malachi offerings' as to why it is not acceptable before our Lord. The first commandment of our Lord God tells us that in order for an offering to be sacred and acceptable before Him, it must entail all of our heart for Him. It is an offering that require absolute obedience in living out His first commandment into our life written as follows:

"THOU SHALT LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THY HEART, AND WITH ALL THY SOUL, AND WITH ALL THY MIND."

(Matthew 22:37)

When we made that offering of ourselves and from ourselves unto the Lord, we must not give anything less than the best. If we have decided to offer financially so as to show the pastor or someone else boasting of one's financial status, it becomes a sacrifice of sin instead of "a sacred

offerings" unto the Lord, since it is not done purely for the Lord. Likewise, if we have given things such as the leftover food or our time grudgingly unto the Lord, it is also considered "Malachi offerings" of the blemish sacrifice.

Likewise, if we have not separated unto godliness and live a sinful lifestyle and practice "Churchianity" on the weekend by going to church, we have not given our Lord the very best "sacred offerings" of ourselves either. Anything that result in spiritual blindness, spiritual lameness and spiritual illness of ourselves cannot be offered unto the Lord as a living sacrifice. It is considered a polluted offerings. It is for this reason, that the Apostle Paul reminds us through his words that is:

" I BESEECH YOU THEREFORE, BRETHREN, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, THAT YE PRESENT YOUR BODIES A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY, ACCEPTABLE UNTO GOD, WHICH IS YOUR REASONABLE SERVICE."

(ROMANS 12:1)

Many Churches today offered "**polluted food**" unto the Lord. Instead of preaching the truths from the scripture, they led them into "**polluted manna**" mix either with social gospel or false doctrine or practices of the worldly rock music etceteras. Satan our spiritual enemies are the sources of these confused doctrines that led to the "**polluted manna**" for the altar of the Lord.

Let us now continue to take a look at what is the very best offering, that is genuine sacred offering acceptable in His sight.

It is without a doubt that **Mary the orphan** has set an example of giving the **very best offering** unto the Lord. The scripture tells us that Mary was born and raised as a poor orphan. In modern day context, it would not be surprising if Mary is described as someone who is financially poor, living in the lowest sector of our society and unworthy to be looked upon. However, Mary has one thing that is very precious and very hard to come by. The answer is crystal clear, She has a simple heart of absolute love for Jesus. All she cares in her heart is **her Lord Jesus**. When she decided to pour her costly precious ointment, that was supposed to be used for herself on her wedding day unto the Lord, it only manifest what is within her heart!

Dearly beloved, do you see why Mary earned her praises from our Lord? Without question, the offering of her ointment unto the Lord's body goes hand in hand with the offering of her heart for Jesus. For this reason, it is considered as a sacred sacrifice, that is worthy of our Lord's remembrance. It is a genuine offering, a sweet smelling savour unto the Lord. Up to the present time, Mary the orphan will continue to carry the story of her good deed marks with **her love for Christ**, someone who truly pour her all to Jesus. Subsequently, her love offering of the ointment has won the Lord's heart, complimenting her by an everlasting remark that:

"SHE HATH WROUGHT A GOOD WORK ON ME." "SHE HATH DONE WHAT SHE COULD: SHE IS COME AFOREHAND TO ANOINT MY BODY TO THE BURYING." (Mark 14:6,8)

Without a shadow of a doubt, the story of Mary's ointment continues to carry the beautiful scent of "her love for Jesus", a perfume for us and an aroma of the burning incense before our Lord forever and ever as the Bible writes:

"VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, WHERESOEVER THIS GOSPEL SHALL BE PREACHED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WORLD, THIS ALSO THAT SHE HATH DONE SHALL BE SPOKEN OF FOR A MEMORIAL OF HER."

(Mark 14:9)

My dearly beloved, which of these two kinds of offerings can you honestly say that you have given unto our Lord? Is it the **"offering of Malachi"** or the **"offering of Mary's ointment"**? Until and unless we give of our best to the master, it is for certainty that we can "never rest or be perfectly blest".

May you profoundly put to mind "the love offering of Mary's ointment", as you ponder in your heart the message from this sacred hymn that writes: "Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid, your heart does the spirit control?"

Prayerfully yours, His servant Rosy Chao Sacramento, California USA

MESSAGE 2

ALL ARE PRECIOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT

Have you ever thought of the question of "how much am I worth" today? Millions of people around the world are struggling with the issue of "self-worthiness" everyday. At the same time, there are uncountable multitudes that are constantly battling with low esteem, anger, stress, hurt, nervousness, fear, hatred, dissatisfaction of life, regrets, emotional agitation, pride, running around spirit, men-pleasers, craftiness, covetousness etceteras. The list of negative emotions and behaviour goes on and on! However, all of these negative manifestations of oneself can be nailed down to the underlying main cause called "insecurity".

It is not surprising that we are living in a complex society where everyone has been hurt one way or another. There was a young man who came for an interview for a job in my office years ago. As I began to ask him questions, he began to weep. When I asked as to why he wept, his reply was: **"my dad says I am stupid and worth nothing"**. Such destructive statements are being thrown and hurled everyday in our society, amidst our job, at our school and worse of all at home! Such **powerful and destructive lies of satan** began to built in the mind of our children, growing teens and adults. Unconsciously, it has crept and embedded deep in our mind even for years without our realization that it has become apart of us. It is of no wonder that our society is filled with adults, teens and even children that manifest the characters of **"insecurities"**.

Another aspect that has contributed to "life insecurities" comes from disappointments. There is a common saying that goes from lips to lips that says, "life is full of disappointments", isn't it? It is inevitable to note that everyone has been affected one way or another by disappointments in life.

Disappointments can be defined as "expectations that are not met!" resulting in emotional hurt or negativity in one's thought. It is not surprising that continuous disappointments can lead to a pessimistic attitude, nervousness, craftiness, depression etceteras that would lead to escapism such as drinking, drug addict, pornography, extra marital affairs as well as mental illnesses and even suicide and so on. Much to my amazement, the Holy Spirit has unveiled "disappointment" as a powerful and yet subtle attack of satan onto humanity as a whole. It becomes crystal clear that disappointment itself is such "a clever device" of the enemy that is so well hidden to the human eyes. Without a shadow of a doubt, it is an invisible nasty sin to the human heart. It is one of the major causes of "insecurities" in general that needed to be deleted and transformed in the mind of God's children!

Are you aware that disappointment that looks mild and well coated emotion is actually a very heavy and potent sin that can cause destruction to one's line of thought and spiritual life if repeated in the long run. Let us **"dissect this sin of disappointment"** in the light of the truths of God's words.

Disappointment can only occur when one is not a believer or if one who is a believer but abiding outside of Christ. Disappointment is a powerful tool of satan as he gives his lies as a line of thought to a person. For example, if a person were to go in bringing some money to gamble with the false lies of thought and expectation that he will win lots of money, we know that the chance of winning money over his principal capital is almost zero. Yet, satan has driven his line of thought of lies plus covetousness to get him hooked onto the sin of gambling. Such **false expectations of lies** will only result in **disappointment** as he will for certainty and quickly lose his money. Consequently, **disappointments** are **treadmill of lies** injected by satan, that could **never be fulfilled**, since satan is the "**father of lies**" as mentioned by our Lord.

"YE ARE OF YOUR FATHER THE DEVIL, AND THE LUSTS OF YOUR FATHER YE WILL DO. HE WAS A MURDERER FROM THE BEGINNING, AND ABODE NOT IN THE TRUTH, BECAUSE THERE IS NO TRUTH IN HIM. WHEN HE SPEAKETH A LIE, HE SPEAKETH OF HIS OWN: FOR HE IS A LIAR, AND THE FATHER OF IT."

(John 8:44)

Ultimately, disappointments and other hurts such as physical, mental and emotional abuse etceteras, come **the total sum of sin of insecurity!**

Let us go back to the truths of the words of God. Do you know that in God's sight, you are worth much more than the whole universe and all of God's creations? Remember, that our Lord God is a God of love by His nature! If satan has lied to you that **"you are worth**

nothing", then it's time to overturn this lie with the truths of God's words.

In the eyes of our Heavenly Father, you are so precious no matter who you are, what you have done in the past or how much you are worth in the sight of society. In God's sight, all of these temporal identities are irrelevant for his condition of love for all of us! It is amazing to know the very fact that God loves everyone of His children unconditionally. God has even respected and given each and everyone of us the free will to love Him in return. Hence, the words of God tells us:

"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE." (John 3:16)

Consequently, "the power of truth lies in the power of faith"! If you have been struggling in your 'insecurity' such as fear and hurt and 'self unworthiness' etceteras in the past, I would encourage you to run in the canopy of "Abiding in Christ Jesus".

First and foremost, you need to realize the lies of satan that harbors in your mind and heart and confess with genuine repentance unto the Lord. Wash them by the blood of Jesus the list of sins that you have committed through the line of thought of lies of satan in your mind. You must **believe by faith** that **God is able to transform your insecurity** such as fear, hurt and unworthiness etceteras, basing on the truth of the words of God. Furthermore, you must analyze your lines of thought and discard those that belong to satan and transform them in the light of God's words and truths.

In the canopy of "Abiding in Christ Jesus", there will be:

- 1) No disappointment but living in the truths according to God's words
- 2) No hurt only blooming through the pruning knives
- 3) No emotional agitation but the power of steadfastness
- 4) No insecurity but the absolute presence of God's love

1) No disappointment but living in the truths according to God's words:

Being God's children, we will never be disappointed so long as we abide in the truths of God's words by "Abiding in Christ Jesus". It is such a blessing that as we "Abide in Christ Jesus", we are filled and under the control of the Holy Spirit. As a result, the moment we have genuinely accepted Christ, the Holy Spirit will begin to guide us and teach us the **"truths"** according to God's words! Obviously on our part, in order to fill our minds with **"truths"**, we must remember and memorize God's words as our spiritual guide everyday. Disappointments that include the lies of satan in our mind, will not stand a chance in the light of God's words. In the mean time, the presence of the Holy Spirit will continue to unveil such thought of lies immediately, sooner or later as we come before "the throne of Grace" in our prayers. As a matter of fact, our Lord had fully reassured us through His words that:

"THESE THINGS I HAVE SPOKEN UNTO YOU, THAT IN ME YE MIGHT HAVE PEACE. IN THE WORLD YE SHALL HAVE TRIBULATION: BUT BE OF GOOD CHEER; I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD.

(John 16:33)

By "Abiding in Christ Jesus", we will also experience the 9 fruits of the Holy Spirit written as follows:

"BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, LONGSUFFERING, GENTLENESS, GOODNESS, FAITH," "MEEKNESS, TEMPERANCE: AGAINST SUCH THERE IS NO LAW."

(Galatians 5:22,23)

As we continue to **"Abide in Christ Jesus"** in the truths of God's words, not only we become spiritually fruitful, it is certain that our prayers will always be answered.

"IF YE ABIDE IN ME, AND MY WORDS ABIDE IN YOU, YE SHALL ASK WHAT YE WILL, AND IT SHALL BE DONE UNTO YOU." "HEREIN IS MY FATHER GLORIFIED, THAT YE BEAR MUCH FRUIT; SO SHALL YE BE MY DISCIPLES."

(John 15:7,8)

Basically, the prayers of "Abiding in Christ Jesus", is a spiritual prayer of the Holy Spirit Himself. It is for this reason, that God will always fulfill His own prayers through us, since it is done by the power of faith as we abide in Him.

2) No hurt only blooming through the pruning knives:

It is amazing to discover that what seemingly to be 'a hurt' if caused by others, are turned around ultimately as His pruning knives for our spiritual growth to His glory! God in His wisdom will orchestrate all so-called temporary hurt for the spiritual benefit of His children, so long as we praise and thank Him from our heart for the knives. Hence, the Apostle Paul writes as follow:

"AND WE KNOW THAT ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THEM THAT LOVE GOD, TO THEM WHO ARE THE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE."

(Romans 8:28)

3) No emotional agitation but the power of steadfastness:

As we grow in the spirit, in the likeness of His son Jesus, all power of insecurity such as stress, nervousness, depression, fear or spirit of agitation etceteras will be totally deleted and replaced with the spirit of steadfastness in Christ Jesus. The joy and living a godly life with a purpose for our Master, will lead us to a heart of peace that surpasses our understanding as the Apostle Paul writes:

"AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING, SHALL KEEP YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGH CHRIST JESUS."

(Philippians 4:7)

4) No insecurity but absolute presence of God's love:

Last but not least, as God's children becomes **spiritually mature in Christ Jesus**, they will be filled with the **presence of God's love** in their hearts. It is the love of Jesus that has given the fully grown Saints the sense of contentment and the absolute worthiness and assurance that our Heavenly Father is always faithful to His children. Remembering always through our Lord's words that:

"HAVING LOVED HIS OWN WHICH WERE IN THE WORLD, HE LOVED THEM UNTO THE END."

(John 13:1)

My dearly beloved, what our Lord Jesus had done on the cross only prove how much we are worth! Wouldn't it be sufficient to know that God loves you enough to die on your behalf? As sheep that have gone astray, God out of His absolute love came down to be with us and finally took all our penalty upon Himself in order that we might live in His image again! Do you still ponder and wonder how much you are worth after all?

Prayerfully yours, His servant Rosy Chao Sacramento, California USA

MESSAGE 3

NO MAN CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS

"No money, no talk!" My customer shouted. Indeed, it is universally acknowledge that the world is powered by money. There is a common saying that "money makes the world go round." Without question, everyone in this present world lives day in and day out seeking money. Even though, money is but a medium of exchange, it has become so powerful for the world, that it becomes more than a necessity. It is not surprising that money has reached a status quo of being the power of this world. It is the undeniable power and the factor that determine the worldly standard of "success in life". The purchasing power that ultimately controls, operates and worshipped in the lives of the unbelievers. Without a shadow of a doubt, it has attained the position of the "god of this world" that has captured even the heart of many believers turning churches into "a den of thieves".

As God's children, where do we stand **as far as money is concerned**? How do we handle it in the **right perspective** in the light of God's words? Let us turn back to God's word for the truth and wisdom as far as **'money'** is concerned.

In the Old Testament, when the Israelites were journeying in the wilderness before entering the land of Canaan, God would send **'manna'** to feed approximately 2 millions of Israelites everyday (read Exodus 16). Essentially what God had done, was to send from the sky down to the ground every morning **"manna"** in order to feed His children. Obviously, as God's children, the Israelites duty is to collect "the daily manna" according to their need. So that as the Scripture writes:

"HE THAT GATHERED MUCH HAD NOTHING OVER, AND HE THAT GATHERED LITTLE HAD NO LACK."

(Exodus 16:18)

The basic idea and spiritual lesson of this 'manna' is:

1) To learn to depend and acknowledge God's provision

2) To do our share by picking up the manna according to our needs

Likewise, the main purpose for working or doing our business etceteras, is a form of our livelihood in order to receive payment to purchase 'our daily manna' for our physical needs. This is a legitimate necessity in order to meet our body temporal needs.

As a matter of fact, money itself is neutral by nature. It carries no power of sin in itself, since it is but a medium of exchange for all transactions. Furthermore, the Apostle Paul encourages us to labor for it honestly and written in the scripture as follows:

"FOR EVEN WHEN WE WERE WITH YOU, THIS WE COMMANDED YOU, THAT IF ANY WOULD NOT WORK, NEITHER SHOULD HE EAT."

(2 Thessalonians 3:10)

However, the **spiritual problem of sins begin** the moment we **attach our emotion to money**. The very moment we put our heart to rely on and worship money and its other forms i.e assets etceteras, it has become what our Lord Jesus calls as **'mammon'**. Hence, the Amplified Bible defines **'mammon'** as follows:

"DECEITFUL RICHES, MONEY, POSSESSIONS, OR WHATEVER IS TRUSTED IN."

(Matthew 6:24)

Consequently, as we begin to put our heart to serve and worship 'mammon', our spiritual enemy satan will immediately turn our heart into "an ugly monster". This "ugly monster" powered by satan has an enslaving power of idolatry in the sight of God and defiles God's children, preventing them from having any healthy relationship with our Lord. It is of no wonder that our Lord remarks as follows:

"NO MAN CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS: FOR EITHER HE WILL HATE THE ONE, AND LOVE THE OTHER; OR ELSE HE WILL HOLD TO THE ONE, AND DESPISE THE OTHER. YE CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON."

(Matthew 6:24)

Secondly, this very same **"ugly monster"** will be used by satan to trap and destroy God's children to the nastiest degree through the **sin of covetousness**, obstructing our spiritual journey towards our eternal home.

It is for this reason, that the Apostle Paul warns us through his words as follows:

" FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL: WHICH WHILE SOME COVETED AFTER, THEY HAVE ERRED FROM THE FAITH, AND PIERCED THEMSELVES THROUGH WITH MANY SORROWS."

(1 Timothy 6:10)

As God's children, once we are born again of the spirit of God, we have "a double life" to live. It is crystal clear that we have our temporal life to live through everyday, right? However, many Christians have forgotten that we have "the eternal life" to enter, that is much more important than the temporal since they are forever or eternal by nature. For this reason, our Lord tells us through His words that:

" IT IS WRITTEN, MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDETH OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD."

(Matthew 4:4)

It is for certain and a common wisdom that we need 'our bread' in order to live for the temporal everyday. However, our Lord tells us that of much more important issue is 'our eternal bread' that proceed out of God's words, in order to maintain our spiritual life above all things. However, the moment the strife for acquiring of our "temporal manna" competed with "our spiritual manna", we must choose to sacrifice the temporal means of 'acquiring' it.

There was a story of a young man who was seeking and finally found a good paying job. He discovered that the job got him involved in doing something related to pornography, which was not supposed to be part of his job. Since he is a Christian, he had decided to sacrifice his job and of course his pay and income in order to maintain his healthy spiritual life. It is not possible to maintain his healthy spiritual life without sacrificing his job since it entails the activities of sins. Hence, the word of our Lord Jesus against the temptations of satan writes:

"GET THEE HENCE, SATAN: FOR IT IS WRITTEN, THOU SHALT WORSHIP THE LORD THY GOD, AND HIM ONLY SHALT THOU SERVE."

(Matthew 4:10)

One of the most destructive sins that attached itself to 'mammon' is called 'the power of false dependencies or false trust'. It is a line of thought that says, "money is my god and my everything." It is a line of thought that governs deep in our heart the idea that "I must only live for money, work for money and totally depend on money alone". Without question, it is a line of thought that rules in the heart of the unbelievers. Such thought of deception entails the absolute lie of the enemy creating a false trust or false dependencies. It is the things of 'Esau' that God hates. Instead of depending on the Lord God, they have devoted their heart to depend on something that satan has offered in the replacement of our Lord God Himself. Sad to say, such thought of lies have powerfully infiltrated and penetrated even the heart of many believers. As a result, it is not surprising that such "false dependencies" have crippled many of God's children in their spiritual walk preventing them from fully trusting Him in their life. It is amazing to discover how many God's children including those in the spiritual leadership role like Pastor, Elders, Deacons and preachers etceteras that have fallen into this trap of 'mammon'.

The Holy Spirit has unveiled to me that **'mammon'** has a supernatural power of darkness that is **extremely sticky**. Once **'this ugly spirit of mammon'** latched on, is like a leech that will suck and sap or drain the **spiritual strength**, **spiritual power** and **spiritual life** of God's children! For God's children, it is the things of **"Achan"**(read Joshua 7). For God's servants and in God's sight, it is the **"things of Balaam"** who disobeyed God and obeyed Balak the king of Moab and became **a false prophet** as he **coveted** in his heart the things of **'Silver and Gold'** (read Numbers 22:18). It is of no wonder, many pastors and preachers are not able to preach with the **power of the Holy Spirit**, since they themselves have become defile through the presence of the **'spirit of mammon'**. As a result, they will not have **'the power and the boldness of Stephen'** to witness (read Acts 7), neither can they be filled with **"the Holy Ghost"** or the **'Pentecostal power'** bringing others to repentance. Likewise, our Lord reminds us through His words as follows:

"TAKE HEED, AND BEWARE OF COVETOUSNESS: FOR A MAN'S LIFE CONSISTETH NOT IN THE ABUNDANCE OF THE THINGS WHICH HE POSSESSETH."

(Luke 12:15)

Consequently, it is **absolutely a sin** to **worship** and **trust** in the **false god** called **"mammon'** in our heart! We must only trust in the Living Lord as He is our Jehovah-Jireh, who will always provide for all of our temporal needs, so long as we praise and thank Him.

Finally, my dearly beloved, it is nothing wrong to be financially blessed so long as we earned it with a hard-earned honest means **as unto the Lord**. If the Lord puts in our care "money, possessions and material things", we must always **richly use** them for **His Kingdom** and **always to His glory**! Furthermore, we must never attach our heart to them but rather stand as His caretaker, **His faithful and good servant** looking after **'our Lord's possessions'**. Never at any time putting our heart unto the things of the temporal, but rather use it as **"dungs'** to fertilize the **vines to bear more fruits** for the kingdom of God! Do not follow the footsteps of **the parable of the foolish rich man**, who indulge in himself and died taking nothing with him from the temporal into eternity! What a pity! (read Luke 12:16-21) It is for this reason, our Lord commented and warns us as follows:

" SO IS HE THAT LAYETH UP TREASURE FOR HIMSELF, AND IS NOT RICH TOWARD GOD."

(Luke 12:21)

Last but no least, if you have fallen into the trap of **'mammon'**, may you repent of it immediately and allocate your love not unto **'mammon'** but rather unto **Jesus only**! As the words of the book of proverbs writes:

" LABOUR NOT TO BE RICH: CEASE FROM THINE OWN WISDOM." "WILT THOU SET THINE EYES UPON THAT WHICH IS NOT? FOR RICHES CERTAINLY MAKE THEMSELVES WINGS; THEY FLY AWAY AS AN EAGLE TOWARD HEAVEN." (Dreverb 22:4.5)

(Proverb 23:4,5)

May our heart be always burning with absolute love of Jesus forever! May we continue to burn and sacrifice all of possessions and ourselves upon the altar and the foot of our master. May we trade all of our temporal for all of our eternal! Let us once again capture our hearts and mind as the Apostle Paul writes:

"BUT GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT IS GREAT GAIN." "FOR WE BROUGHT NOTHING INTO THIS WORLD, AND IT IS CERTAIN WE CAN CARRY NOTHING OUT." "AND HAVING FOOD AND RAIMENT LET US BE THEREWITH CONTENT."

(1 Timothy 6:6,7,8)

MESSAGE 4

WHY DID GOD HATE ESAU?

It is always fascinating to observe the birth of identical twins. Identical twins are God's creation of 2 persons that are so identical, that oftentimes it becomes difficult to detect one from the other at our first observance of their look. Despite their identical look and resemblance, twins are two totally different individuals that have different characters, lifestyles and many times destiny. Consequently, the famous story of the Jacob and Esau recorded in the Bible, reflects and relays the destiny of these two identical twins. It is a story of one's choice and the ultimate battle for obtaining God's promises, versus the choice for the temporal.

The word of God tells us that both Jacob and Esau were born grandchildren to Abraham known as "the father of faith". They were children to the only son of Abraham named Isaac. Yet, the words of the Scripture write as follows:

" AS IT IS WRITTEN, JACOB HAVE I LOVED, BUT ESAU HAVE I HATED."

(Romans 9:13)

Perhaps, you have wondered: why did God hate Esau? The background of this story goes back to the book of Genesis chapter 25. If you were to read their stories, it will sound like a regular soap opera of the modern days where both parents played favoritism against their own children. You would even notice that their family conflicts do not defer from those of the modern day family conflict, isn't it?

The Bible tells us before they were even born, God had the fore knowledge of their ultimate decision making and their destiny in life. As the Lord says unto Rebekah their mother as follows:

"TWO NATIONS ARE IN THY WOMB, AND TWO MANNER OF PEOPLE SHALL BE SEPARATED FROM THY BOWELS; AND THE ONE PEOPLE SHALL BE STRONGER THAN THE OTHER PEOPLE; AND THE ELDER SHALL SERVE THE YOUNGER." (Genesis 25:23) Our Lord God is the God of Omniscience. As a matter of fact, He has all the knowledge of our present past and future. When He sees His creations and His children, He sees them in the light of eternity. The word of God tells us:

"BUT, BELOVED, BE NOT IGNORANT OF THIS ONE THING, THAT ONE DAY IS WITH THE LORD AS A THOUSAND YEARS, AND A THOUSAND YEARS AS ONE DAY." (2 Poter 2:8)

(2 Peter 3:8)

Putting aside their family conflict, let us focus on what Esau had done that cause "God to hate Esau". When God hate Esau, it does not mean that He hates Esau as a person, but rather the deeds and the foolish decision making that Esau chooses instead.

First and foremost, from the story we know that Esau could not care less about his birthright. Instead, all he cares was trading his birthright with his bowl of soup that Jacob had offered and cheaply attained in exchange for it. The Scripture writes as follows:

" AND JACOB SAID, SELL ME THIS DAY THY BIRTHRIGHT." " AND ESAU SAID, BEHOLD, I AM AT THE POINT TO DIE: AND WHAT PROFIT SHALL THIS BIRTHRIGHT DO TO ME?" " AND JACOB SAID, SWEAR TO ME THIS DAY; AND HE SWARE UNTO HIM: AND HE SOLD HIS BIRTHRIGHT UNTO JACOB." "THEN JACOB GAVE ESAU BREAD AND POTTAGE OF

LENTILES; AND HE DID EAT AND DRINK, AND ROSE UP, AND WENT HIS WAY: THUS ESAU DESPISED HIS BIRTHRIGHT."

(Genesis 25:31-34)

Are you aware that our Heavenly Father has given us many wonderful promises in the Scripture? Do you know that all the firstborn in His creation of mankind and even the animals belong to God? In other words, God has given the firstborn of the Israelites the special birthright that carry His divine marks of possessions and belongings of God. The firstborn simply belongs to the Lord, as God instructed Moses as follows:

" SANCTIFY UNTO ME ALL THE FIRSTBORN, WHATSOEVER OPENETH THE WOMB AMONG THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, BOTH OF MAN AND OF BEAST: IT IS MINE."

(Exodus 13:2)

Wouldn't it be wonderful to know that you belong to God? If you were specifically told that you are the prince or princess, the children of the king of kings and the Lord of Lords, how would you feel? It is an absolute honor to be chosen by God as His own children. Yet Esau could not see this value of the divine ownership of God. What Esau had done is to value the worthless bowl of the lentil soup of his temporal need and sold his birthright that is so precious and worth the eternal value for nothing. All he cares was to fulfil the lust of his mouth immediately at the expense of his eternal inheritance that God had given him. For that reason, Esau who is also Edom (read Genesis 36:1) spiritually means and represent a life dictated by "the appetites of the carnal flesh."

To aggravate "his carnal flesh appetite", Esau would hurt and disobey their parents by intentionally marrying two wives of the "daughter of the Canaan" considered as "uncircumcised" spiritually referring to the unbelievers.

" ESAU WAS FORTY YEARS OLD WHEN HE TOOK TO WIFE JUDITH THE DAUGHTER OF BEERI THE HITTITE, AND BASHEMATH THE DAUGHTER OF ELON THE HITTITE:" "WHICH WERE A GRIEF OF MIND UNTO ISAAC AND TO REBEKAH."

(Genesis 26: 34,35).

To make matter worse, he would also marry the daughter of Ishmael, a step brother to Isaac, who had never been on good terms ever since his grand mother Sarah's time (Genesis 28:8,9).

The Apostle Paul tells us specifically through his words as follows:

"FOR TO BE CARNALLY MINDED IS DEATH; BUT TO BE SPIRITUALLY MINDED IS LIFE AND PEACE."

" BECAUSE THE CARNAL MIND IS ENMITY AGAINST GOD: FOR IT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE LAW OF GOD, NEITHER INDEED CAN BE."

" SO THEN THEY THAT ARE IN THE FLESH CANNOT PLEASE GOD."

(Romans 8:6-8)

To put it in simple terms, Esau's despicable attitude towards the things of God can be summarized as follows:

It is an attitude and a line of thought that

1) Focuses on the lust of the flesh as well as the things of temporal as their main priority in life.

2) Would sacrifice the eternal blessings in order to obtain the temporal things.

3) Despise God's words and promises through the spirit of unbelief and intentional rebelliousness.

4) Reject the blessings of God through the spur moment of disobedience and foolishness in order to satisfy his carnal mind and lust of one's flesh

Dearly Beloved, do you realize that in today's world there are multitudes of people that have walked like Esau. In general, there are 2 groups of people that follow the footsteps of Esau. The first groups of people are clearly the unbelievers. It is crystal clear that the majority of the unbelieving world has chosen to reject "the precious salvation" that is freely given by our Lord, through the death of Jesus on the cross. They simply refuse this cup of blessings of eternal life, when they are given freely by the grace of God.

What bothers my mind was the second group of the "socalled believers". On the surface, they claimed to be Christians, yet in their life and mind, they choose to worship " the temporal world" like Esau. They claim to believe in the Lord and even attend churches every weekend. Yet deep in their heart, they never truly value and obey what the words of God has instructed to the genuine believers.

In the end, we all know the tragic ending of Esau. The book of Hebrews writes:

" FOR YE KNOW HOW THAT AFTERWARD, WHEN HE WOULD HAVE INHERITED THE BLESSING, HE WAS REJECTED: FOR HE FOUND NO PLACE OF REPENTANCE, THOUGH HE SOUGHT IT CAREFULLY WITH TEARS." (Hebrews 12:17)

Indeed, Esau perhaps had regretted in tears that his decision was absolutely wrong, yet it was too late to repent of it.

Dearly beloved, are you currently walking like Esau? Do you truly believe in Jesus? Do you give your all and live for Jesus who loves you and prepares for you your eternal portion of blessings? May I encourage you to repent and turn around "your footstep of Esau" while there is time! For someday, when life is over, we cannot turn back "our footstep of Esau", even though we "sought it carefully with tears of repentance" like Esau!

MESSAGE 5

WHY DID GOD LOVE JACOB?

One of the most complex and **'a heart wrenching'** stories in the Bible that melt my heart to tears is the story of Jacob. Within Jacob's life stories portrayed the struggle of a man who ferociously battle for **'the promises of God's blessings'**, intertwined with his consequences and sufferings of his **'old ugly scheming self'**. Unlike his forefather Abraham and Isaac who led much simpler life, Jacob's life manifests much sufferings and sorrows. It is a story of trials and tribulations that you can identify, commonly found within the problems of **'the soap opera story'** of our society. However, the uniqueness of Jacob's stories lies in his choice of trust in the Almighty God, a heart that genuinely chooses to believe in the Lord. Without a doubt, it is an interesting story that reflects the power of faith amidst tribulations intermingled with God's ultimate blessings upon Jacob's life.

It is not surprising that the name Jacob in the Bible many times provoked the image of craftiness. Nonetheless, amidst 'Jacob's craftiness', comes the **"preciousness of Jacob"** that we cannot deny or omit. Jacob was a fighter as far as clinging to God's divine promises is concerned. He was known to fight victoriously for God's blessings amidst his hardship. Every difficulties, trials and tribulations brought him closer and closer to God. His absolute love for God at all cost had won him a name and the title 'Israel', which means and written as follows:

" THY NAME SHALL BE CALLED NO MORE JACOB, BUT ISRAEL: FOR AS A PRINCE HAST THOU POWER WITH GOD AND WITH MEN, AND HAST PREVAILED."

(Genesis 32:28)

Let us go back and analyze the life story of Jacob whose name became Israel **"the contender with God"** as written in the Amplified Bible. Without a doubt, the incredible event of the rebirth of the nation Israel in 1948, after having been lost for 2000 years, marks the fulfillment of the prophecy of God's words. It is through God's promises to God's people that the nation of Israel stands up in the world today. It is simply a living proof that originates from the covenant, blessings and faithful promises of God upon Abraham, Isaac and ultimately Jacob as Israel, their founding forefathers. The word of God tells us that when Jacob was born, "**his** hand took hold of Esau's heel" (Genesis 25:26). Indeed, throughout Jacob's life, he was known as a "grabber or clingy", someone who constantly grabbed or clinging emotionally to another person.

By nature, Jacob was born very crafty, super intelligent but a schemer who knew how to take advantage of his brother Esau when he was on his weakest point. He took hold of Esau's 'Achilles heels', which literally means his weakest point and symbolically represented by holding onto Esau's heel at birth. It is not surprising, that he was able to buy his brother's birthright at the cheapest and best deal at the price of just a bowl of soup of lentils and bread.

Later, he cheated his own father by agreeing with his mother by pretending to be Esau in order to **grab hold** of God's blessings of the birthright for the first born. As a result, he had to flee from his own brother Esau who planned to kill him (read Genesis 27).

Perhaps you would put a question on the words of God that says **"Jacob have I loved"**. As a matter of fact, you would even argued in your mind that both Esau and Jacob are just as bad. If Esau could not care less but his bowl of soup, then Jacob is not any better in supplanting his brother's birthright and cheating his dad either, right?

It is undeniable that both actions of Jacob and Esau are considered as wrong and sinful. It is for this reason that the words of God tells us as the Apostle Paul writes:

"FOR I KNOW THAT IN ME (THAT IS, IN MY FLESH,) DWELLETH NO GOOD THING"

(Romans 7:18)

However, in the sight of our Heavenly Father what is of great value is what is **'within the heart of man'**. As the Scripture write:

"FOR THE LORD SEETH NOT AS MAN SEETH; FOR MAN LOOKETH ON THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE, BUT THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART."

(1 Samuel 16:7)

The huge difference between Esau and Jacob lies on the very fact that Jacob heavily put his heart and mind on 'the things of God' and 'His divine promises'; while Esau has his heart totally on 'the things of the temporal' and not of 'the things of God'. Even though Jacob's action and crafty means was wrong but 'his heart and love for God' was absolutely right!

Consequently, God's choice of Jacob was crystal clear! Our God who is the **All-Wise God** had chosen and given the blessings and the promises of **Abraham** to his son **Isaac** through **Jacob**, and the twelve tribes of Israel as His people.

As the Scripture writes, what God is interested is what is within our heart and not our **outside appearance** or **our cover up** of ourselves. Likewise, what God loves about Jacob is his **genuine heart** towards him.

There are a couple things that God has to deal with Jacob, before he can truly receive his earthly and eternal blessings from God. The things of Jacob that require prunings are as follows:

- 1) Jacob loves to grab or cling unto mankind or others
- 2) Jacob craftiness, supplanting habits

1) Jacob loves to cling unto mankind or others:

As the fallen mankind, it is in our sinful nature to grab or cling to 'mankind or others' instead of God. Many times even as an adult, there is a tendency for us to grab or cling emotionally to our parents, our children, our friends etceteras. There is also a tendency for us to also cling unto our own carnal intelligence by trusting fully in man's effort such as our doctors, our job, our worldly friend's advice etceteras instead of trusting God in our prayers through the voice of the Holy Spirit and God's words. However just like Jacob, our Heavenly Father cannot bless us when we grab or cling onto others instead of God. The reason is simple, others are but flesh and can never replace the dependency on the All Wise God who is the Almighty! To begin with, we are created in God's image with His spirit that was "breathed into his nostrils: and man became a living soul" (read Genesis 2:7). It is for this reason that when our Lord Jesus rose when the dead, He had to send the Holy Spirit the third person of the Trinity to indwell God's children, the moment we are born again of His spirit to cling upon.

Furthermore, the words of God tells us:

"THUS SAITH THE LORD; CURSED BE THE MAN THAT TRUSTETH IN MAN, AND MAKETH FLESH HIS ARM, AND WHOSE HEART DEPARTETH FROM THE LORD."

(Jeremiah 17:5)

Our Heavenly Father simply requires his children 'to love him' with 'all our heart, our soul and our mind' (read Matthew 22:37). Any discounting and distractions of His love onto someone or something competing with Him is not acceptable in His sight!

As a result, when Jacob began to put all of his heart and love and clung unto Rachel, God had to take away Rachel from Jacob's life. Hence, Rachel died at the birth of Benjamin his youngest son. Next in line that Jacob clung unto, would be Joseph his favourite son. Soon, Joseph was also taken away from Jacob and sold to Egypt for a slave (read Genesis 37). Jacob's heart of sorrow over the lost of Joseph is written as follows:

"AND JACOB RENT HIS CLOTHES AND PUT SACKCLOTH UPON HIS LOINS, AND MOURNED FOR HIS SON MANY DAYS."

"AND ALL HIS SONS AND ALL HIS DAUGHTERS ROSE UP TO COMFORT HIM; BUT HE REFUSED TO BE COMFORTED; AND HE SAID, FOR I WILL GO DOWN INTO THE GRAVE UNTO MY SON MOURNING. THUS HIS FATHER WEPT FOR HIM."

(Genesis 37: 34,35)

Finally, having lost Rachel and Joseph, God had to finally take Benjamin from Jacob, as Jacob clung tightly to Benjamin as well. When the Lord was about to take Benjamin from Jacob, his reply was as follows:

"AND JACOB THEIR FATHER SAID UNTO THEM, ME HAVE YE BEREAVED OF MY CHILDREN: JOSEPH IS NOT, AND SIMEON IS NOT, AND YE WILL TAKE BENJAMIN AWAY: ALL THESE THINGS ARE AGAINST ME."

"AND HE SAID, MY SON SHALL NOT GO DOWN WITH YOU; FOR HIS BROTHER IS DEAD, AND HE IS LEFT ALONE: IF MISCHIEF BEFALL HIM BY THE WAY IN THE WHICH YE GO, THEN SHALL YE BRING DOWN MY GRAY HAIRS WITH SORROW TO THE GRAVE."

(Genesis 42:36,38)

The lessons of fully trusting God for "crafty" Jacob were hard. However, our Heavenly Father meant it well. God in His wisdom had orchestrated and forced Benjamin to be taken from Jacob temporarily, in order for Jacob to understand the goodness of the Almighty God for him. Ultimately, Jacob had decided to let Benjamin go by saying:

"AND GOD ALMIGHTY GIVE YOU MERCY BEFORE THE MAN, THAT HE MAY SEND AWAY YOUR OTHER BROTHER, AND BENJAMIN. IF I BE BEREAVED OF MY CHILDREN, I AM BEREAVED."

(Genesis 43:14)

2) Jacob's craftiness and supplanting Habits:

The words of God says:

"WITH THE MERCIFUL THOU WILT SHEW THYSELF MERCIFUL, AND WITH THE UPRIGHT MAN THOU WILT SHEW THYSELF UPRIGHT." "WITH THE PURE THOU WILT SHEW THYSELF PURE; AND WITH THE FROWARD THOU WILT SHEW THYSELF UNSAVOURY."

(2 Samuel 22:26,27)

Our Lord God is a holy and just God who hated any form of craftiness, dishonesty dealings like the devil. **God in his love** had to deal with **Jacob's craftiness** and **supplanting habits** by sending his ruthless uncle Laban into his life. Under the hand of his uncle Laban, he had suffered much physical hardship for tending his sheep as Jacob had to fully bear all losses of the sheep, whether they are stolen or consumed by the beast (read Genesis 31:38,39). Furthermore, Jacob has been cheated and ill-treated many times by his uncle as his wages has been changed 10 times written as follows:

"THUS HAVE I BEEN TWENTY YEARS IN THY HOUSE; I SERVED THEE FOURTEEN YEARS FOR THY TWO DAUGHTERS, AND SIX YEARS FOR THY CATTLE: AND THOU HAST CHANGED MY WAGES 10 TIMES."

"EXCEPT THE GOD OF MY FATHER, THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE FEAR OF ISAAC, HAD BEEN WITH ME, SURELY THOU HADST SENT ME AWAY NOW EMPTY.GOD HATH SEEN MINE AFFLICTION AND THE LABOUR OF MY HANDS, AND REBUKED THEE YESTERNIGHT."

(Genesis 31:41,42).

Secondly, as Jacob cheated his father, his own sons also cheated him by lying that Joseph had died, instead of being sold into Egypt (read Genesis 37:31-33).

My dearly beloved, the complex and difficult life of Jacob merely indicated that **a crooked life could only be dealt with crookedness** as written in the words of God above (2 Samuel 22:26,27).

In the end, as Jacob matured spiritually, God had unveiled his greatest blessings unto him. Ultimately, as Jacob decided to let go Benjamin as his final **'cling to mankind'**, he discovered that not only his favorite Joseph was still alive but that he was position next to Pharaoh! Hallelujah, what a surprise gift from the Lord!

What is precious about Jacob is the very fact that he truly learnt his spiritual lesson once and for all. The moment he realized of his mistake whether it is the practice of 'craftiness, dishonesty' or 'clinging to mankind', immediately he repented, turn around and 'cling tightly to God'. Instead of seeing his favorite son Joseph immediately, he went to Beersheba to 'offer his heart of thanksgiving to God' and finally 'put God first in his life' written in the scripture as follows:

"AND ISRAEL TOOK HIS JOURNEY WITH ALL THAT HE HAD, AND CAME TO BEERSHEBA, AND OFFERED SACRIFICES UNTO THE GOD OF HIS FATHER ISAAC." (Genesis 46:1)

Without a doubt, the preciousness of Jacob lies in the very fact that he had never forgotten the Lord God at all costs! Despite his difficulties and heartaches, Jacob continued trusting in the God of his father, as he offered his heart of thanksgiving upon the altars of sacrifice continuously and from time to time. There was never any record that Jacob 'whine, murmured, complained, distrust or blame' God for any if not all of his difficulties. On the contrary, Jacob realized that it was the God of his father that protected him and fed him, as the Lord was with him throughout his difficulties. The scripture writes as follows:

"AND THEY JOURNEYED: AND THE TERROR OF GOD WAS UPON THE CITIES THAT WERE ROUND ABOUT THEM, AND THEY DID NOT PURSUE AFTER THE SONS OF JACOB." (Genesis 35:5)

Dearly beloved, Jacob's life was indeed full of hardship and sufferings as God prunes him in the likeness of His son, Jesus. However, Jacob's **'battling power'** as the prevailing prince of God is worthy of our recognition as a great warrior of faith after all.

May we remember the story of Jacob and follow after the footsteps of Jacob's **'final heart towards God'**. May we tightly cling to God's promises and blessings like Jacob, who victoriously battle against the angels until he received his title of Israel **'the prevailing Prince!'**

MESSAGE 6

THE STORY OF JOSEPH

THE CONSECRATED PRINCE

As children we would always love to hear many stories that are beautiful, that are wonderful to remember. Likewise in many Sunday school today, among the most popular story told is the story of Joseph and his eleven brothers. This lovely story of Joseph that appeals to many children, has always been the unforgettable story that would deeply move my heart and bring tears to my eyes. What looks like a cartoon movie of the Sunday school, relays the most powerful message of God's plan to His children. Amidst the story of Joseph, unveil **"the most loving invisible hand of God"**, who is **in control** of every single event of our life.

What seemingly to be an intricate story of a family event, reveals the **deepest spiritual lessons** for God's children to comprehend and learn. It is a story that touches the deepest core of our being. It is a story that tests and train one **'the power of faith'**, trusting in the faithful God who will never change. Finally, it is a story that **overturn evil with good**, fulfilling **the will, protection** and **the plan of God** through a man called Joseph!

The Bible records the story of Joseph in the book of Genesis chapter 37 through the end of the book of Genesis. This magnificent story starts from **'the visions of God'** that comes through the mind of Joseph, a seventeen years old boy, the most favorite son to Jacob. In his dream, Joseph relayed that he had seen two times the same vision in slightly different forms as follows:

"AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, HEAR, I PRAY YOU, THIS DREAM WHICH I HAVE DREAMED:

" FOR, BEHOLD, WE WERE BINDING SHEAVES IN THE FIELD, AND, LO, MY SHEAF AROSE, AND ALSO STOOD UPRIGHT; AND, BEHOLD, YOUR SHEAVES STOOD ROUND ABOUT, AND MADE OBEISANCE TO MY SHEAF."

" AND HE DREAMED YET ANOTHER DREAM, AND TOLD IT HIS BRETHREN, AND SAID, BEHOLD, I HAVE DREAMED A

DREAM MORE; AND, BEHOLD, THE SUN AND THE MOON AND THE ELEVEN STARS MADE OBEISANCE TO ME." (Genesis 37:6,7,9)

It was crystal clear that his brethrens were jealous over him, ever since Jacob made him a special coat, as he was his favorite son. Furthermore, his stepbrothers' hatred was aggravated over Joseph's dream visions, that had resulted in an attempt of killing him. However, the Scripture writes that as they were about to do him harm and killed him, that the Ishmeelites merchant came in time to buy him from their hands. Ultimately, Joseph was sold to Potiphar, the Captain of the guard to Pharaoh, as his slave by the Ishmeelites merchants (read Genesis 39:1).

To summarize this story, Joseph was then put to jail. The reason was simple, he was falsely accused by Portiphar wife of sexual vices committed against her. Later in jail, it was Joseph's gift of interpretation of dreams for the butler and the baker that led him to interpret the dreams for the Pharoah. Finally, Joseph was made a prince in order to preserve the tribe of Israel, while going through the 7 years of exceeding famine that was to occur in the land of Canaan.

There are many precious factors that we must learn from this story and Joseph himself. Joseph's success in accomplishing God's plan through his visions are as follows:

- 1) He was a godly man that absolutely trusted God in his life
- 2) He was a man of integrity filled with thoughtfulness for others
- 3) He was a very wise and diligent young man that always gave credit unto the Lord, standing in a position of a humble and a faithful servant
- 4) His absolute obedience to the Lord in all of his training, clearly understanding God's will
- 5) His practice of godliness earned him the gift of interpretation of dreams
- 6) He was always accompanied by the presence of the Lord
- 7) He was the consecrated prince, separated from his brethren, overturning evil with good

Despite being separated from his father Jacob, Joseph maintained his **godliness** as a young man. It was obvious that Joseph had not forgotten about his vision dreams as revealed by the Lord to him. What continues to be precious was his **absolute faith** and **trust** that God would for certainty brought his vision dreams to be fulfilled in God's

time. Without question, **his trust** and **genuine fear of God** had given him the **power** to live before Him as **a godly young man**. Unlike many young men that succumb to the beauty of a woman and falter into sexual sins, Joseph had the power to flee from **'youthful lust'** as mentioned by the Apostle as follows:

"FLEE ALSO YOUTHFUL LUSTS: BUT FOLLOW RIGHTEOUSNESS, FAITH, CHARITY, PEACE, WITH THEM THAT CALL ON THE LORD OUT OF A PURE HEART."

(2 Timothy 2:22)

It is not surprising that Joseph **godly line of thought** was put to **test by the Lord**, to manifest what was within his heart as he replied in his integrity as follows:

" THERE IS NONE GREATER IN THIS HOUSE THAN I; NEITHER HATH HE KEPT BACK ANYTHING FROM ME BUT THEE, BECAUSE THOU ART HIS WIFE: HOW THEN CAN I DO THIS GREAT WICKEDNESS, AND SIN AGAINST GOD?

(Genesis 39:9)

Joseph was undoubtedly, a man of his words and **full of integrity** and **thoughtfulness** for his master Potiphar and the Lord God himself. He had practiced what our Lord Jesus says: " **as wise as serpent and harmless as a dove**" (Matthew 10:16), when it came to dealing with others and the temptations of satan.

Thirdly, Joseph's **wisdom and genuine fear of the Lord** had protected him from committing adultery. It is a sin that would destroy both the **temporal** as well as **eternal plan** of God. Apart from being **wise**, Joseph was **a diligent** and **a responsible** young man whether he was in Potiphar's house or in the jail. It was for this reason, that Joseph had won the **heart and the trust of the jail keeper** who entrusted all the prisoners into his hand.

" AND THE KEEPER OF THE PRISON COMMITTED TO JOSEPH'S HAND ALL THE PRISONERS THAT WERE IN THE PRISON; AND WHATSOEVER THEY DID THERE, HE WAS THE DOER OF IT."

(Genesis 39: 22)

Likewise before Pharaoh, Joseph gave all the credit to the Lord God and stood merely **as a humble and a faithful servant** when he said to Pharaoh as follows:

" IT IS NOT IN ME: GOD SHALL GIVE PHARAOH AN ANSWER OF PEACE."

(Genesis 41:16)

Not only Joseph was **wise and positive thinking man**, he was also **very obedient to the moulding hands of the Lord**. Never in the Scripture would Joseph complained or grumbled and distrusted God. His positive **attitude of absolute trust in the Lord** whether as a slave or as a criminal, gave him the receptiveness when he observed the sadness and the depression of both the butler and the baker in jail. In reply to both the butler and the baker:

"AND JOSEPH SAID UNTO THEM, DO NOT INTERPRETATIONS BELONG TO GOD? TELL ME THEM, I PRAY YOU."

(Genesis 40:8)

Without a shadow of a doubt, Joseph **godly living** before the Lord earned him **the gift of interpretation of dreams**. The Lord God had given him the spirit of revelation of vision dreams just like Prophet Daniel. Furthermore, all his interpretations came to pass exactly as he had predicted.

Finally, Joseph's success lies in the most important factor of **the presence of the Lord with him wherever he was**. The Scripture records as follows:

" AND THE LORD WAS WITH JOSEPH, AND HE WAS A PROPEROUS MAN; AND HE WAS IN THE HOUSE OF HIS MASTER THE EGYPTIAN."

" AND HIS MASTER SAW THAT THE LORD WAS WITH HIM, AND THAT THE LORD MADE ALL THAT HE DID TO PROSPER IN HIS HAND."

(Genesis 39:2,3)

When Joseph was in jail, the Scripture writes as follows:

" THE KEEPER OF THE PRISON LOOKED NOT TO ANYTHING THAT WAS UNDER HIS HAND; BECAUSE THE LORD WAS WITH HIM, AND THAT WHICH HE DID, THE LORD MADE IT TO PROSPER."

(Genesis 39:23)

As a matter of fact, Joseph had **overturned evil with good**. He had saved all of his families from famine. Not only he did not avenge his stepbrothers of the evil intention but forgave them and realized that God meant it well after all. The scripture writes as follows:

" BUT AS FOR YOU, YE THOUGHT EVIL AGAINST ME; BUT GOD MEANT IT UNTO GOOD, TO BRING TO PASS, AS IT IS THIS DAY, TO SAVE MUCH PEOPLE ALIVE."

(Genesis 50:20)

My dearly beloved, can you imagine if Joseph did not walk in **godliness**, with **obedience** and **wisdom** to the plan of God? Without question, the Israelites would have perished through the famine. Consequently, Christ our Saviour could never have been born a descendant of Abraham, isn't it? Furthermore, **salvation to mankind** that God had promised through **'the blessings of the seed of Abraham to the world'** (read Genesis 22:18) would never have been **realized** and **fulfilled**. Now do you realize why it is absolutely important for God's children to walk with God like Joseph?

Finally, Joseph willingness to suffer and obey the Lord in order to save his family reflects the characters, the sufferings of Christ and the mark our Risen Saviour. The presence of the 9 fruits of the Holy spirit such as love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance (Galatians 5:22,23) in Joseph's life manifest the characters of Christ.

Last but not least, as Joseph was sent to save his family, Christ our Lord had died and rose again in order to **save sinners** from **eternal death** and **damnation**. Dearly beloved, may we remember the story of Joseph who ultimately became the **first born of Israel**. May we walk in the footsteps of Joseph's that is **'separate from his brethren'** (read Genesis 49:26). Do you ever marvel and wonder as to why Joseph is **the Consecrated Prince** now?

TESTIMONIES FOR THOUGHT

LETTER 3

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ Jesus,

It is such a joy and a privilege to write these **"testimonies for thought"** once again. As I ponder upon the year that has gone by before us, we cannot but continue to count His blessings one by one.

Every single trial brings forth the victorious voice of the Risen Saviour through the marks of our testimonies. As we battle through our tribulations, it only produces "gold that are shinier than ever" amidst the fiery trials of faith that we face. As we grow in the spirit, we yield much more luscious and richer fruits for the Lord.

In this issue, I have incorporated the testimonies of our western brethren that will also continue for the future. There are multitudes of testimonies that I wish to share with you. However I can only relay them to you within an issue of a book at a time. May you continue to read and share these testimonies among your brethrens as well as others. You may also use these testimonies as your witnessing tool to others as well.

As the words of God tell us, these testimonies are "clouds of witnesses" (read Hebrews 12: 1) that will continue to encourage you in your walk with Christ our Risen Saviour.

May these "testimonies for thought" stories once again refresh you spiritually in your daily walk with Him. May these stories be a blessing to you as you recall His goodness, His faithfulness, His protection and His provision for His children, as we face every single trials in our life. For after all our Heavenly Father is always our "Jehovah Jireh" and there is no shadow of turning with Him! Let us sing praises unto our Lord who is worthy of our praise as we recall through these testimonies that "I am not able but He is able!" Amen.

Prayerfully yours, His servant Rosy Chao

THE TESTIMONIES OF ROSY CHAO

"MY BEARS & MY LIONS" PART III

I shall continue to share with you my spiritual battles along this narrow path of the cross once again. What I had written and shared with you in volume 2 and 3, merely reflect the goodness and the faithfulness of our Lord. Our Heavenly Father is always compassionate to His children. He is ever loving, and there is "no shadow of turning with Him". He is the "All Wise God", who is forever present with His children whether we go through the valley of the shadow of death or other trials and tribulation of life. Most of all, our Heavenly Father is God the Almighty the omnipotent, the All knowing God the omniscience and God the omnipresent who is always present to help us amidst our tribulations.

As I recount my spiritual journey through every trials and tribulations with you, may the name of our Lord once again be uplifted. The Lord God who is able to walk me through my spiritual journey will equally be able to walk through yours!

Let us once more give glory and praise to the name of our Lord for His goodness to His children, as I continue to share my stories with you. Amen.

THE DIVINE DELIVERANCE IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

It was without a doubt that my real spiritual training of faith took place within my daily business affairs in the world. There were many difficulties in my business that had to be battled ferociously by faith and faith alone in the Lord. God had given me the faith to trust in Him for every single trials, problems and solutions in the business dealing with my customer. As God was with King David in his battles and won wherever he went, God was definitely with me in my business battles for success. It was His divine presence that made it possible for me to operate my business successfully. Apart from providing my financial needs, God was interested in building His Characters of Christ likeness and faith in me. Joe Cookie was one of my favorite customers who frequently ordered special occasion birthday dresses for his customers. He owned and operated a bridal shop in Brooklyn, New York. He was always sweet in his voice and I remembered vividly how he would talk over the phone to me about placing an order.

"Sweetheart, I need that dress by Saturday in the month of August, you know? Joe's voice was reeling through my mind.

"That's no problem, Joe", I heard myself replying.

"It's urgent, ok. So ship it overnight once you received it from your factory overseas, ok!" Joe continued.

"Of course, don't worry, it will be just fine", I continued to reassure him.

Joe cookie had ordered a peach long informal beautiful ball gown for a girl. It was a peach color, one of our latest styles. It was size 12 and had to arrive very soon, as it was urgent. In my years of business, I had never fail delivering all dress orders in time and on time to my customers, whether it was a wedding gown or special occasion gown for birthday use etceteras. God had been faithful unto me, making sure that I did not fail my customers in the delivery of their orders. However, this time I fell into a major problem. Praise God that the dress finally arrived through Fedex from Indonesia to Sacramento, where my office and warehouse was located. The arrival time was perfect and all we had to do was to repack and reship by UPS overnight from Sacramento to Brooklyn, New York.

Since I had just given birth to my son Isaac, I had to stay at home. In the meantime, I had to leave my office into Marlene Hoffman my assistant in the office for a short period of time. I remembered vividly instructing Marlene as follows:

"Marlene, please ship that package to Joe Cookie, Brooklyn, New York right away as the wear date is this Saturday ok!" I clearly instructed her.

" Also, make sure you fax me the UPS tracking label to make sure that there is no mistake", I explicitly continued.

" Oh, don't worry about it, I will take care of it and will do!" Marlene replied cheerfully.

Marlene was my employee, an elderly Caucasian American lady who would usually take my instructions with no problem. However this time she did not follow my instructions and decided to ship the package without having me cross check the UPS label. Perhaps, the urgency of the package had push her to ship the dress without bothering me whatsoever. "Marlene, did you fax me the UPS tracking label, yet?" I called to ask at 5.30 pm. from home that same day, as UPS office was about to close by 6 p.m.

"Its gone and shipped already", Marlene replied.

"Did you ship it Ups Red!" I continued and was concerned since the wear date was so closed.

"Yap! Everything is red label, don't worry", she confidently replied.

So I rested with confidence that my responsibility for shipping the order to my customer was done after all. The very next day was Wednesday and Joe Cookie called:

" Sweetheart, I am getting worried. I did not receive the package. The wear date is this Saturday. Did you ship it UPS red? I recognized through Joe Cookie's voice that he was worried.

"Yes Joe, we shipped it yesterday for sure UPS red, but I'll call you back with the tracking number and see what happened", I was getting concerned as I replied Joe but was not super worried.

Meanwhile, I sense something was not quite right as UPS rarely made a mistake especially in regards to an urgent next day air shipment. So I called Marlene and told her to check what had happened to the package. Before long, a phone call from Marlene rang.

"Rosy, guess what? I made a mistake and wrapped the packaged with UPS red label but when I entered the UPS tracking label, I did not enter next day air but UPS ground. And they said that the package will only arrive in Brooklyn, New York by Monday." Marlene responded with a tone of regret.

As I heard Marlene's answer, I knew instantly that "the ferocious battle is on!" that spelled major trouble ahead. Immediately, I had to call Joe to tell him the truth and begged that the girl would change to another style and offered a much more expensive dress for the same price.

"Sweetheart, the girl does not want to change neither the color nor the style. The banquet hall will be decorated as the color of the dress and so is her photo album and accessories etceteras. Now they threaten to bring a gun and kill me if I did not give her the dress that she ordered!" Joe replied in earnest desperation and spoke but the truth.

It was crystal clear that satan was about to attack me very hard. However, deep in my heart, I had every faith and knew that my Heavenly Father would somehow bailed me out with His victorious power and solution from this critical issue. In the meantime, I had called Ellicks my other employee from home, who was in charge of the computer to check if we had records of customers who had bought this style with the same size and color. According to Ellicks, there were only a total of 8 sold so far, since it was a relatively new style and in white only. "They were scattered all over the U.S but nonetheless the color was wrong", I continued to think.

All of a sudden, Ellicks found from his computer a record that there was one customer that had the same dress, size and color that is located in the same city of Brooklyn, New York but had purchased the dress 8 months ago. Immediately, I had to call the customer for a major help, not knowing whether she even had the dress and if it was in a good new condition, since it was sold 8 months ago.

"Would you please do me a big favor of giving that dress to Joe Cookie and in exchange he will give you his dress by Monday. Is that ok? Also is that dress new and clean? As I explained my difficulties and problem to my customer.

"Yes, it is still new and that's fine, no problem" the store owner replied.

What was amazing to this testimony was the fact that God had prepared a solution for my upcoming business problem. My Heavenly Father had known that I would face this problem down the road and touched another my customer's heart from the same city as Joe, to purchase the exact same dress, color and size in order to meet Joe Cookie's customer's need. Mathematically speaking, United States being a huge nation, what are the chances that the same dress, color and size would fall in the same city in Brooklyn, New York and not sold within 8 months period? Hence, it took Joe approximately 45 minutes to retrieve that new dress from the other store to solve this impossible problem.

As Joseph was about to be harmed by his brethren, God had intervened in His wisdom by the coming of the caravan of the Ishmeelites in time to purchase Joseph and deliver him from their hands(read Genesis 37:27). Likewise, God had amazingly intervened and provided his solution to my problem in this story.

Can you imagine what would happen without His divine intervention to Joe Cookie, his customers and me!

God's provision of my seamstress Maria

Being God's children, nothing will cross our life by chance. God in His wisdom had orchestrated all things for our good to His glory. He will never fail us or leave us, so long as we depend on him moment by moment, trusting in His faithful provision in our life.

My customer Michelle had ordered a dress that needed to be altered. My alteration lady Manuela had promised to come to alter the dress. I had told her that the alteration needed to be done urgently as the wear date was very closed and had to be done within 2 to 3 days at most and then shipped it UPS next day air. It so happened that Manuela was not an honest and responsible employee. I had called her at least 5 times in a row to tell her to come. Her reply was simply: "I will be there tomorrow".

As God's children, the Holy Spirit always equips us with a sense of alertness and wisdom when something wrong was about to occur. The next day, I called Manuela again and she promised to come at 5 p.m. at the latest. The dress needed to be altered urgently, but by the time 5 p.m. came, Manuela did not appear after all. Her " no call no show" attitude merely indicated that my "six sense" was right.

I knew that I had to act out quickly and look for a professional seamstress to alter this bridal dress. Since, time was running out on this alteration issue, my next solution was to bring this dress to an alteration shop the next day. Most of the alteration shop in Sacramento could only handle casual wear which do not require any form of skill or quality. However, bridal alterations are much more difficult to handle and would require much higher skilled seamstress to handle the work. Personally, I had no idea who to turn to in this case of emergency. While I was contemplating in my mind where to get it altered, the Lord immediately "**put forth Moses rod to open the Red Sea.**"

"Maria, I am so glad to see you. I needed you right away to help me fix an urgent order for a bridal dress!" I shouted in an excitement, as I saw her walked into my retail outlet that I just barely opened, a few months Ago.

Maria was the best seamstress that I had hired more than ten Years ago. She had supervised Manuela the other seamstress and taught her how to sew. She was an extremely skillful in sewing and a very talented seamstress that was difficult to come by. She had left me as I had decided to close the bridesmaids' production years ago. In the past, I had attempted to relocate her to rehire her back as my seamstress instead. However, since her phone was disconnected, I could never get hold of her. Honestly, to find a seamstress in Sacramento was not an easy job to begin with, let alone to locate a gifted and talented seamstress like Maria.

What "**man is not able to do, God who is able**", brought back Maria my seamstress to fulfil and resolve my needs immediately. Maria my seamstress was sent by the Lord to once again help me in my business. Praise God, the urgent alteration was taken care of and the dress was shipped in time to my customer Michelle.

The story of Maria my seamstress, has always been in my mind ever since! There is a saying in Mandarin that concludes this story, that is: "the end of man's solution is the beginning work for God." How amazing!

God's Choice of My Employee

In the business world, especially in the U.S, one of the most difficult problems in many small businesses is to find a good and honest employee. I had operated my business for more than 30 years and indeed I had to resort "on my knees" through prayers after prayers to receive God's provision for these help.

It so happened, that I was about to embark to Shanghai to meet our new Chinese bridal manufacturers. I had previously prayed about this help and believe it or not, God had His own choice while I had mine!

One night, as I was on my knees praying for the right help to assist me in the Chinese business venture, God had answered me with a vision dream. At night, after I had made the request before my Heavenly Father where to look for a new help, prior leaving to China to meet my Chinese suppliers; I was given a vision dream of my former employee Ellicks.

In the dream, Ellicks came to me for a brief interview and ask me how much would be his pay. The dream was crystal clear and I knew that God wanted me to rehire Ellicks, my former employee. When I woke up from my dream, my answer to God was "no Lord, not Ellicks!" I had flatly refused in my mind and had given my Heavenly Father all kinds of excuses for not wanting to hire him back.

Hence, like Prophet Jonah (read the book of Jonah), I decided to do what I like. So, I put on the newspaper's ad and spent some money but to no avail. Again, it is a "no call no show" advertisement result. "The money was spent, alright!" I thought, but there was not even one ringing tone from the phone, let alone an extra help.

As God's children, we must truly trust Him in everything. Our Lord knows exactly what is best for us! As God's words says:

"TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART; AND LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING." "IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM, AND HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATH"

(Proverbs 3:5,6)

Even though I had changed my mind from time to time, God certainly had not changed His mind! So I decided to pray again for a good employee to help me as my trip to China was coming up in about 2 weeks.

"Lord, I really need a good and honest help, you know ", I prayed in my heart, as I was driving to pick up some food in a Chinese restaurant.

"Please help, Lord. My trip to China is only 2 weeks away" I earnestly petitioned further in my heart to the Lord.

As I parked my car, picked up my food and was about to pay my bill in the Chinese restaurant, all of a sudden I heard someone shouting my name.

"Hey, Rosy!" Someone had called my name loudly. I could not miss his voice as I knew and recognized who he was. It was Ellicks sitting down in a dining table with his wife and 2 grown children. Ellicks had quit working for me for the past 15 years, as he had to look after his 2 little boys. His wife preferred to work outside while Ellicks was left to be the daddy at home.

As I turned my head to Ellicks in a light surprise, I could not but smile at the very fact that my Heavenly Father had not change His mind and His decision on the employee that I should hire after all! Dearly beloved, our Heavenly Father is the **All-Wise God** who knows what is best for His children. As the famous hymn sings:

"THOU CHANGEST NOT AND THY COMPASSIONS, THEY FAIL NOT. AS THOU HAS BEEN THOU FOREVER WILL BE, GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS! O GOD MY FATHER!"

Praise God! Our Lord was right! Ellicks was originally from Hong-Kong, China. It was through the help of Ellicks that I was able to communicate in the Chinese language, essential for the success of business with China. He had taught me how to write and communicate in the Chinese language through the internet, a written language skill that I had not practice in 30 years.

May these stories of "My Bears & My Lions" be testimonies that would administer grace and edification to your heart, soul, mind and spirit. Remembering always that God is faithful to the need of His children. His ears are always attentive to our cry while His eyes are always attentive to our needs. His heart is always filled with His compassion to our shortcomings while His wisdom are always protection for His children. Let us choose forever to abide under the shadow of His wings of love! Amen.

THE TESTIMONIES OF ESTHER WANG

THE TRAIN TRIP DISASTER

Aunt Esther Wang, being my spiritual teacher had shared with me many of her amazing testimonies. She was not only one of the greatest warriors for Jesus, she was also a gifted preacher. She had " the mark of the suffering of Christ" as she was imprisoned by the communist China for 20 years, on the basis of her love for Jesus (please read volume 2 for her story).

One of the stories that flashes in my mind was the amazing story that she had recounted to me years ago. I shall hereby share this story with you.

Our Heavenly Father loves all of His children, especially those who genuinely love Him like Auntie Wang. It so happened that Auntie Wang was about to take a trip to the city of Hang Chow. Without a doubt, she was about to purchase a train ticket for her destination. She was standing in line to purchase the ticket, when our Heavenly Father decided to obstruct her way. Auntie Wang was not aware what was next to happen, that would endanger her life. However, our Heavenly Father being the Almighty God knew of the danger that lay ahead of her. Our Lord in His wisdom and love, decided to send 2 Japanese armies to knock on her two luggages just to irritate her to return home. By nature, Auntie Wang was a very strong and a very determine person. Just like John the Baptist, she was a very straight-forward person with nothing to hide and would stand up for "the truth" at all cost for Jesus. On one hand, she was full of charity towards others when mercy was required, yet on the other hand she would never budge or bow down to the enemies.

It was during the Second World War in China that the Japanese armies invaded, rape and killed many of the Chinese civilians. Being the enemies of the Chinese people, the sight of the Japanese armies knocking on her two luggage only send a signal of absolute anger and irritation to Auntie Wang.

Out of the anger towards the Japanese armies for tampering her luggage, Auntie Wang decided to call off her trip and returned home. Little did she realize that she was sent home by the Lord, in order to keep her from the upcoming major disaster in her life.

Soon, the news of the tragic train accident spread around like wildfire. The train that was supposed to arrive in the city of Hang Chow could not make it. Apparently, the train had plummeted along the bridge and fell straight into the river. Hundreds of people were killed and injured.

"Praise God", Auntie Wang told me." God had protected me from such a disaster!"

As I recalled this testimony and share it with you, I smile at how sweet our Heavenly Father would be towards His children. Even though Auntie Wang had gone to be with the Lord, she had left me her "voices of prayers". Her favorite prayers, when we come together to pray was always "whatever work our Lord had done and provided, is always the work that is far beyond men's expectation and comprehension!"

Indeed, from this sweet and simple testimony, comes the unfathomable love, wisdom and the Almighty presence of our Lord, always guarding and protecting His children amidst danger. Just like little chicks under the shielding and the canopy of the wings of the mother hen, let us give praise unto our Lord, remembering always that:

"HE THAT DWELLETH IN THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH SHALL ABIDE UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY"

(Psalm 91:1)

THE TESTIMONIES OF GEORGE MUELLER

THE BREAKFAST OF FAITH

There were many precious Saints of the west that had contributed awesome testimonies of the Lord. Among these renown Saints were George Mueller, Hudson Taylor of England and L. Dwight Moody of United States of America. These 3 men were co-laboring for Jesus in the same era, approximately during the 19th century. Nonetheless, I would like to share with you one of the most memorable story of George Mueller. You would agree with me, that this remarkable testimony "the breakfast of faith" would indwell in your heart forever.

Brother George Mueller was a man of faith. He was known to look after as many as 1000 children in his orphanage. In his life, there was not one prayer that had not been answered. Everything he had in the orphanage was contributed and came by as a result of his prayers. In other words, George Mueller totally depended his earthly provision on the basis of "Jehovah Jireh" which means God's provision through the power of prayers by faith.

One morning, the orphanage had nothing for breakfast to feed these many orphans. The cook was very worried and do not have any faith whatsoever. However, what brother George Mueller had was his absolute faith in our Heavenly Father. It was for certainty, that brother George Mueller had grown spiritually to know that our Heavenly Father had always been faithful to provide in the past and why not now!

As the children come together to pray on their breakfast table. The empty plates merely reflect that there were no food whatsoever and the cook nervous presence did not help either. Just as our Lord counsel us to buy "gold tried in fire", spiritually referring to having a strong faith in the Lord in order to be rich (read Revelation 3:18), brother George Mueller's faith was to be put to test once again.

George Mueller had absolute faith that God would always provide their need in time and on time. The Red Sea will only open for the Israelites, the moment they stood before it and the moment Moses rod was instructed to hit on the Red Sea. Just as Moses rod was instructed to hit the Red Sea, Brother George Mueller began to bring everyone of the orphanage children to pray in order to thank God for their breakfast as well as to sanctify the food. As they finished their prayer, the doorbell rang and a man brought "tons of loaves of bread" came through the door to serve their breakfast table. Apparently, God had touched the man's heart to turn to the orphanage to provide for the orphans their breakfast. How amazing that our Heavenly Father was always in time and on time on His provision for His children once again. It was not surprising that the cook was forced to resign on the basis of having no faith in the Lord's work.

May this amazing story of George Mueller and his orphans' breakfast encourages you to trust in the Lord through prayers in all that you do. Always keeping in mind what the Apostle Peter says:

" THAT THE TRIALS OF YOUR FAITH, BEING MUCH MORE PRECIOUS THAN OF GOLD THAT PERISHETH, THOUGH IT BE TRIED WITH FIRE, MIGHT BE FOUND UNTO PRAISE AND HONOUR AND GLORY AT THE APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST"

(1 Peter 1:7)