



RESURRECTION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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EVANGELIZING THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER

Letters of Faith

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**“Let love be without hypocrisy.
Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.
Be devoted to one another in brotherly love;
give preference to one another in honor;
not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;
rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,
contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.”**

Romans 12:9-13

Dearly Beloved,

These verses are an urgent call to the Body of Christ and have become our constant companions ever since He laid them on our hearts to meditate on. Whenever we are in the twilight of sleep in the evening, whenever we awaken in the middle of the night, or whenever we are rising out of slumber in the morning to greet the day's dawning, these words are like angelic signposts guiding our thoughts along His path, whispering to us, calling our spirits forth, gently encouraging and reminding us of Christ's life that dwells within us and wants to burst forth from us.

These words from the apostle Paul are showing us that we all need to be on the alert and to heed this Holy Spirit “reality checklist” on a daily basis. We can pray up a storm, we can worship the Lord with abandon, and preach a really smashing sermon, but if we don't contribute to the needs of the saints, if we don't really abhor evil with a vengeance, and refuse to honor others more than ourselves, etc. we are not displaying the true Son of God with our lives—we are not truly re-presenting Jesus to a world that desperately needs to see Him.

Have we forgotten to rejoice in hope for others, for our country, or even for ourselves? Have we slacked off in our diligence? Have we stopped clinging to what is good and started embracing the world's ways?

Are we pretending that things are all “just fine” between “us” and “them when the truth is that there is a chasm (a wide divergence of feeling, sentiments, interests, etc.: a rift) between us that is filled with allegations (assertions made without proof), rumors, half-truths, and false accusations? How can we genuinely say “I love you” when there is enmity between us. That is gross hypocrisy (Pretending to feel what one does not feel; especially a pretense of virtue or piety etc. without really being so.) We Christians have been called to emulate Christ by His grace and Jesus never put on a false front.

Listen to verse 2 of that same chapter: **“...do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”** (Remembering that “perfect” means mature!)

We all have been presented a number of opportunities to “forget” or “refuse” to accept the truth of these words of God that He wants planted in our hearts. Satan thinks he can use illness, death of a loved one, and disappointments of all kinds to tempt us Christians into “letting down the wall” of faith by suggesting that we have every right to revert back to our old “tried and true” habits of the world—lashing out when hurt, giving up in tribulation, and not hating the evil that sings the siren song to let go of the truth and embrace the sin of self-pity, and revenge. It is far too easy to forget that we are to rejoice in hope and persevere in tribulation when we are accosted by the spirits of this age.

The wise apostle Paul begins his exhortation in Romans 12 with a passionate plea, sparked with the Holy Spirit's anointing, **"I URGE you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship."** It is a graphic reminder that shocks us into the reality that we cannot walk as Jesus walked without shedding the blood of our own desires and mind-sets on the cross. It IS painful, but worth every agony, because as our minds and bodies become conformed to His word and His image, God endows us with the faith to believe His Word and follow His instructions.

We are presently seeing a "fervency in spirit" among God's people that transcends our previous experience. Relatively "new believers" are so **"diligent and fervent in spirit"** that they are moving into ministry much sooner than would be expected by us old-timers, or even allowed on a ministry team by some of our more carefully organized ministries, and they are mightily anointed by the Lord! They are "persevering in tribulation and devoted to prayer" to an extent that is awesome to behold and they are re-presenting the ministry of Jesus in His power and love. The spirit realm is real to them and the giftings of the Holy Spirit are sharp, and clear, and excitingly powerful.

All of this is most exciting and very challenging to the staid old "church as usual" status quo! We sense the immediacy of God transforming all of us so that we will be available for Him to use in some special way when He decides to use us. And we see especially amongst those we are flowing with in the Holy Spirit an increased sense of just saying OKAY to God when He speaks, or moves, or points a way for us to move with Him.

This is not a time to be caught in a religious rut! It is a time to embrace the Holy Spirit's moves to make the Body of Christ come into the fullness of the "good and acceptable and perfect" will of God that includes particularly the release of divine miraculous intrusions of the Kingdom of Heaven here on this earth.

Hugs,



Personal Report:

This month includes Paul's 80th natal day which we are celebrating with an intimate gathering of our immediate family here in St. Louis. If there is just one scripture we can quote to describe our always scary/exciting walk (gallop!) with Jesus over the last forty years, it is Eph. 3:20-21. **"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen."**

In our ongoing heart-cry for more of Him, in our re-fired dedication to be transformed by the renewing of our minds, and in our continued youthful zeal for the manifestations of the miraculous power of our all-powerful God to be released through us, we are daily using all of our energies, strengths, and remaining abilities to follow the apostle Paul's admonition in Philippians. 3:12-14. Permit us license to paraphrase and personalize his precious words: *We press on in order that we may lay hold of that for which we were laid hold of by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, forgetting [the ugly] things that lie behind and reaching forward to [the glory] that lies ahead, we press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of Christ Jesus.*

Thanks to all of you who have continued to receive, believe, and undergird with prayer and your substance, this ministry God has blessed us to give to the Body of Christ. Incidentally, should you desire to save us the ever-increasing postage of these monthly mailings, you can download these Letters of Faith every month from our website [www.rcmin.org]. Please let us know so we can remove your label, and celebrate the savings (our email address is: rcmin2@centurytel.net).

Huge Haglin Hugs!