



# RESURRECTION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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*Paul and Gretel Haglin*

EVANGELIZING THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER

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## Letters of Faith

June 2010

**“Be courageous! Let us fight bravely to save our people and the cities of our God.  
May the Lord's will be done.”**

(2 Samuel 10:12 NLT)

Dearly Beloved,

What very strange times we are living in! The president of Mexico is invited to a formal state visit in Washington and is treated like royalty only to return the favor by severely criticizing us publicly at a special joint session of Congress over a very controversial subject. Yet no one in our collectively assembled Senate and House had the boldness or courage to express and/or demonstrate their outrage by verbally challenging his inaccurate statements or by walking out on his pompous display of disdain! Is there not even one of our elected leaders with the courage to make a bold reproof? Prov. 10:10 says that: **“... a bold reproof promotes peace.”** So then what does a cowardly acquiescence promote, I wonder?

Yes, Beloved, we are grateful that a substantial number of our “representative” Congress present did not rise to their feet and applaud the Mexican President as he slandered the foundational integrity of our equal justice under the law approach to governance. But surely the loud and overt support of his bullying chastisements should have inspired at least some patriotic, bold, and courageous leader to make some sort of similar stand in opposition!

But there was no one up to the challenge! We think Almighty God, the Father of our nation, was deeply concerned even as He has been at similar failures of His peoples in the past: **“I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall of righteousness that guards the land. I searched for someone to stand in the gap in the wall so I wouldn't have to destroy the land, but I found no one.”** (Ezek. 22:30)

Beloved, we know personally several Congressmen who serve God with all their hearts and energy and strength, and even they did not break the bondage of tradition and protocol to express the complete inappropriateness of this verbal attack on our country in the very core of our Capitol. We know through previous public statements that there are many more congressional leaders who were appalled by this verbal abuse of our country, yet none of them dared to protest it in public.

A call to public protest by God's Army of Christian Soldiers brings to mind an absolutely incredible, but true, testimony about the Holy Boldness of Richard Wurmbrand, founder of Voice of the Martyrs who spent 14 years in a Communist prison in Albania. This awesome ministry is now lead by another Holy Bold Christian, Tom White, who spent many months in a Cuban prison. Rev. Wurmbrand literally had all of the fear of man beaten out of him in prison. During a church visit on a Sunday morning with friends here in the USA, he was disturbed that the collection was taken right after the pastoral greeting and opening hymns. Being assured that this was just our local American format of Sunday worship, he settled down in his seat to hear the ministry of God's Word he fully expected to enjoy.

Unfortunately, the pastor preached from the news headlines, chastised some prominent local leaders for their anti-abortion position, and ended his mini-sermon with a bombastic prayer.

Rev. Wurmbrand was incensed because the Word of God had not been opened, nor was the Name of Jesus even mentioned! As the pastor was announcing the closing hymn, Richard Wurmbrand rose to his over six foot height, and declared in a sweet and gentle, but loud enough voice to be heard throughout the sanctuary: I WANT MY MONEY BACK! YOU HAVEN'T EVEN ONCE MENTIONED THE NAME OF MY LORD JESUS!

Needless to say, the ushers gathered quickly around Richard to quietly ask how much he had given. He again loudly said: I GAVE ONE DOLLAR, WHICH IS ALL I HAVE, BUT YOU DIDN'T EVEN MENTION THE NAME OF MY LORD JESUS.

Will you all please pray with us that God will raise up leadership for our country who have the same portion of holy boldness and courage exhibited in this testimony?

Is it too much to ask of our elected representatives to have the same courage and boldness of this simple man of God when they stand up for the principles of our Founding Fathers as so eloquently and simply enunciated in our Declaration of Independence and Constitution?

The May issue of Charisma Magazine had a feature article including quotes from 20 leaders of today's major churches who gave their answers to the question of what they thought the church would look like in the year 2020. There was really only one answer that caught our attention and has had it riveted on each word ever since we first read it! Pastor Jack Hayford said most eloquently: *"The next ten years will bring increasing persecution among believers in the Western world, where it has been mild at its greatest over the last century. The spirit of anti-Christ is increasing its intensity. The heat will not only increase against institutional Christianity, but any believer who lives "out of the closet" of silence or reserve—that is, who stands and speaks for Jesus—will face mocking and suffering with rising regularity. Fires of this persecution will rekindle a purity in the church and will also set aflame the hearts of many... Who will not be able to withstand the wisdom and spirit of those who bear a faithful witness.*

*"Already, those alert to the Holy Spirit's work in today's church are beginning to renew our call to "make disciples." Discipleship has been short-circuited by everything from casual preaching (i.e., easy altar calls that have too-long manifested passive expectations of full surrender and decisive commitment to Christ) to convenience-oriented sermonizing that tickles ears (preoccupied with personal fulfillment more than service, and prosperity more than sacrifice) to touting a self-centered spirituality that knows little of our call to die to self, take up the cross, follow Jesus, and resist the fleshly escapist notions that test the fabric of true faith. But in the face of the deception, I see huge numbers of believers breaking into dimensions of depth in life and witness that will reveal a Philippian-like "shining as lights in the world"—manifesting a compassion and power that will garner an overwhelming harvest, no matter how great the paganized darkness, or how deep the waters of opposition."*

Beloved, this very special man of God has condensed the call of Jesus on each of us in an incredibly powerful way. Reread it! Digest it! Own it! This is a word of God by the Holy Spirit through one of God's anointed and appointed end-time apostles that clearly, and simply enough for even us to grasp and wrap our hearts and human spirits around, declares our role in the preparation of the world for the Kingdom of God: be purified, forged, and burnished by the fire of God through the persecution of *"the paganized darkness"* and tempered by the *"deep waters of opposition"* so we will shine like the bright luminaries of Phil. 2:15: **"...prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights [bright stars, luminaries] in the world..."** (NASB)

Beloved, in order to do this, we must completely appropriate God's words to Joshua as His direct commands and promises to us: **"Be strong and courageous, for you will lead my people to possess all the land I swore to give their ancestors."** (Josh. 1:6 NLT), and: **"I command you—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."** (Josh. 1:9), and: **"Don't ever be afraid or discouraged, ...Be strong and courageous, for the LORD is going to do this to all of your enemies."** (Josh. 10:25)

In other words, believe that Pastor Jack Hayford has the Word of God for us all for the coming stress-filled season of our participating with the Holy Spirit in God's bringing the Kingdom of Heaven to earth in Jesus' Name. And remember: **"When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Your consolations delight my soul. ...the Lord has been [and will be forever!] my stronghold, and my God the rock of my refuge."** (Psalms 94:19 & 22 NASB)

Bold and Courageous hugs,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul & Gretel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PS: Thank you to all who are receiving this letter via e-mail or the web. Please let us know if your e-mail address changes; otherwise we might lose track of you!!