

TRUMPET SOUNDS

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GOD GAVE US JESUS, BUT JESUS GAVE US GOD!

Down through the years God remained mysterious in His "ways", since man was never quite sure exactly what those "ways" were. So, man fit God in each "way" that came along. If it is calm and plentiful God must be happy with man, but the tables could turn quite suddenly and before they knew it they were being punished in the hands of an angry God. God was man's provision but also perceived as his enemy. God poured Himself into a man named Abraham who presented God from his perspective to his sons and their generations. God was thusly identified through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This relationship of man with God kept on in this fashion for centuries until the peculiar appointment of a man named Moses.

Moses was an unlikely candidate as a deliverer because he was led by his passions yet lacked courage in other areas. Still, God chose him to lead His children through a mighty exodus from captivity and oppression. Moses' passions would be sorely challenged as he dealt with a people who felt entitled, hardhearted and rebellious. Moses' passions showed man that, once again, he was in the hands of an angry God. Moses did, however, show Jesus through the construction of the tabernacle, feasts, celebrations, and practices. Yet from Moses and after laws became so many that man could not possible keep up with them all. For example, God made a special day of the Sabbath in order for man to leave his work and rest, but laws made even rest a chore of abstinence instead. Religious leaders twisted everything made for good into a penalty in which

severe judgment fell. One thing Moses did was to set before the people of God life and death. Both life and death were painted in the hearts of the children in order for them to know the stark difference. Then he led them to the land flowing in prosperity in which they would make the choices of living or dying, blessing or cursing, prosperity or lack. Could they keep their land?

Through centuries of losing ground and gaining it back just to lose it again, God made a final destination for His Word. The WORD rose up and walked from the pages of the Old Testament into the NEW TESTAMENT. He did not carry all words with Him, only WORD Himself walked across the GREAT DIVIDE of time and laws. Truth became a human being. He would represent Himself through His Son... the exact image, likeness and character of HIM. God's "WAYS" were now visible and audible to all mankind. *For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. Luke 10:24*

God gave us Jesus, but Jesus gave us God, and now it is up to us to bring salvation back to its source of origin... the Kingdom of God. The mission is still ongoing but coming to completion soon in an hour we do not know. Knowing how close we are to the mission's end encourages us to leave the little foxes that spoil the vines to focus on the bigger picture God has set before us. Each of us have our ranks that need to be filled: *Joel 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabi-*

tants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; 7-11 They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? 15-16 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.

This is the time of resurrection from dead works to living the destiny for which we have been called to this hour. Dedicate your life to the season and *let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. Heb 12:1-2*

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

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INTENTIONAL LIFE

My life was put here on earth intentionally and so was yours. We are not an accidental birth. Spirits do not fall from heaven by accident having slipped the Father's attention or intentions. We are deliberately here...on purpose for a purpose.

Since we are not here by accident, we should not live our lives accidentally. We are designed with a design in mind. In reference to the parable on talents, I consider myself a one talent servant. I do not live a 10 talent life, but neither do I bury my one talent figuring it too insignificant to spend. I also do not live on credit of the nine I was not given but solely on the one I was. Did that make any sense?

What one talent was designed to do cannot be replaced and should not be neglected. All too easily I could live an accidental life of "who

knows what" each and everyday. I was intentionally brought here to live an intended life...intentionally!

I know a woman who gives testimonies all the time but believes that she has nothing to offer in the scheme of things. She has no idea that each testimony is a seed of hope to someone who needs to be planted. I also know of people who share their Christian lives when the opportunity arises and still wonder what their purpose: **Acts 4:20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.**

A testimony is a powerful witness of a Living God even if for one person hearing it. The Good Shepherd left the 99 to go after just that ONE, you know.

God told Joyce Meyer that she would have a large ministry; it was no surprise to her when

she was awarded 10 talents by the Lord. If the Lord did not show **you** this, then live your life intentionally as He gave to you. These are the requirements of an intentional life:

1. Study the Word.
2. Apply the Word.
3. Become the Word.
4. Testify of the Word.

If you can do that you are intentionally living, and each time destiny taps you on the shoulder you will be ready and willing to use the talent or talents you were given. There is the possibility that more talents will come your way at the time intended by God and for His purpose, but until then continue to study, apply, become and testify...deliberately...on purpose...intentionally!

JUST A HOMETOWN KID

I want you to picture, if you will, a nice hometown boy with whom you are familiar. You have seen him here and there maybe with an occasional, "Hello, how's your mother?" You have witnessed him with his friends walking and talking or cutting the lawn for his dad and passed by him at Wal-Mart. He is rather average looking and went through all the gawky stages of adolescence and voice changes. He is someone's son, brother, cousin, student, neighbor and friend. He is just another ordinary boy with whom one is familiar in which no thought is taken. He eventually leaves the area, you think, for a better job elsewhere, but one day he returns. Rumors have it that he is the Son of God...God? Himself in the flesh? That cannot be, since you know exactly who he is. But Sunday you go to church as usual, and there he is teaching and you are astonished, saying, "When did he start all this? Isn't this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? And aren't his sisters here with us? Who does he think he is?" *But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.*

Jesus was not a magician. He simply did what the Father showed Him doing. That was all He was required to do. He was not commissioned to make anyone believe or receive, that was up to each one He touched. Others testified that Jesus healed, but Jesus never said that HE healed anyone, rather that they were healed by their faith:

- *Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. Matt 9:22*
- *Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. Matt 9:29*
- *Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. Matt 15:28*
- *And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole. Luke 17:19*
- *And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. Luke 18:42*

Just as Jesus remarked on the great faith of people, He also remarked upon the little faith of those who could not believe. Yes, even Jesus, the Son of God, ran into walls of unbelief where little was accomplished. How does knowing this help me in my efforts as a Christian? I know for myself that my own experience is not unlike Jesus' in that I have more success in meetings out of town where people are not as familiar with me being an "ordinary" person. They see me as a representation of Jesus, and their faith is stirred to believe. Whenever I am away from my own town or home I am heard more clearly, received more dearly, believed more sincerely and the manifestation of miracles, healing and deliverance are witnessed. In my own hometown, I am the woman who lives in the house with the red roof, married to Denny O'Connor and shops at Wal-Mart like everyone else. This is not to say that I can get no faith response within the constraints of my hometown because I can, however, minimal by comparison. This is why it is far easier for an evangelist to get results than the faithful hometown pastor. Jesus' faith was not what failed in His hometown but that the people could not receive from "ordinary" Jesus,

the carpenter's son. Then I realized even more clearly that Jesus is ever making intercession even more than I, and people do not always believe in His prayers either. Why is that? It is for the same reason as Jesus stated in Mk 6:1-5 that most Christians have grown up with Jesus. Christians have become complacent with Him in familiarity. They believe what their eyes, ears and feelings say but not so much in His Words.

My point is this: We are often told that if we were living like Jesus that more people would be healed and delivered, and we would see more miracles. However, truly, by walking like Jesus we face much more criticism, unacceptance by many especially in authority and those of our own hometown. My point being that a hometown kid is not all it is cracked up to be. I get the opportunity to minister out of my familiar surroundings, but for those of you who witness where you are, take heart because you have the hardest job of all. You are on the frontlines of unbelief through familiarity. Jesus knows just what you are facing...He faced it on earth every day! Success is not in how many people get saved, healed or delivered but in our obedience to serve. Remember only one man was healed by the pool at Bethesda, and there were plenty of others.

Never measure your worth to God in the number of miracles wrought at your hands but in using the talent you have been given. I cannot stress enough not to look at one talent as though it means nothing. One talent can retrieve one sheep for which Jesus left the 99 to gain.

THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Truth is God, and God is Truth. God is Word, and Word is Truth. What is Truth's definition? The dictionary defines it as:

1. **something factual:** the thing that corresponds to fact or reality
2. **true quality:** correspondence to fact or reality
3. **true statement:** a statement that corresponds to fact or reality

Truth is fact and reality. Truth cannot be recalibrated. It is set as fact and reality no matter the situation surrounding it, man's agreement to it or his adherence to it. Man may accept a fable, but it will not stop the course of Truth. Truth will find its reality.

Wisdom follows Truth and is blessed by it, while the foolish disregard it, and Truth becomes his curse. All through the Pentateuch [first five books of Moses and the law] God is setting the grounds for what will bring life, abundance and blessings and what will reap lack, curses and destruction. Jesus came to bring us eternal life through forgiveness by His shed blood and abundance for our obedience to walk in the spirit and in Truth. God is not in the curses because God is not a curse. Satan is the author of all curses to mankind. We have the choice of two doors:

1. The door of Truth
2. The door of man lured by lust and desire

Judgment is in the hands of man contingent upon his choice. God is not giving judgment; He has already made judgment by setting forth His Truth: Deut 30:19 *I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:*

I said that to tell you this: In this nation we are trying to remedy the symptoms of disobedience without seeing that the cause **IS** disobedience. None of the wounds to our economy will be remedied because we ignore the source of our problem. Obedience is better than sacrifice, but we keep trying to feed the sacrifice, which is like a ravenous animal. Feeding into lack is like trying to feed quicksand. The more you feed it the more it eats. We have the entire Old Testament as an example of the rise or fall of God's people. God wanted them to

walk in life as a model to the world, but upon their conformation to the world they sacrificed the blessings to live under curses and death. Captivity ruled by their disobedience.

FACT: Seven years after the first warning of our hedge crumbling on September 11, 2001, our economy took a hit with global banks collapsing. Bailouts and bankruptcy were fed into this quicksand which was quickly gobbled and fed more to no avail. Everyone was made a debtor to the god of mammon! It happened to fall on the 7th year of the Hebrew shmita. Simply put, the Hebrew shmita forces man to recognize that there is more to life than just the physical world. By refraining from agricultural work and, instead, devoting his time to WORD study, man spent every seventh year developing the spiritual world as well. Second, shmita involves social justice. In the past, **landowners** were, by definition, rich; more land signified greater wealth. Yet during the sabbatical year, the landowner must repudiate ownership of his fruit. In other words, anyone may enter the landowner's field and partake of the fruit. [No, this is not called socialism but charity and spiritual growth.] Thus, the landowner and the village pauper enter the field as equals, and each are only permitted to pick exactly the amount they need to eat. Since the rich must forgive all the poor's debts, an impoverished man can more easily get back on his own two feet after the shmita year has concluded. Furthermore, by observing the laws of shmita, man is, in effect, declaring that he recognizes that all the property which he has acquired does not truly belong to him. Rather, everything that he has comes from God. Therefore, he obeys God's command and repudiates ownership of his fruit, refrains from working his fields and cancels debtors...*and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.* This Hebrew practice was the spiritual Truth of forgiving debts. When the Jews did not obey the shmita, they found themselves in captivity, and the land rested by force, and the wealthy landowners lost their lands by force. The Jews would either submit to Truth or be forced into Truth at their peril...Truth is not stopped because man ignores it.

Granted, our nation is many sabbaticals in debt but has lived under the grace of God's forgiveness. However, we were served notice on 9/11 that our hedge had been compromised. We had no idea that we were vulnerable, but the Truth was revealed by force as the enemy entered where he could not before. Truth to the disobedient is a curse. As this na-

tion has disregarded Truth, Truth was revealed in a way we did not choose. That was man's judgment, and we are living it. We did not obey the Truth even after it was exposed, and the next Truth followed. There was no grace, for grace is the sign of a nation under God. Our decision was to become a secular nation and further our walk of disobedience. Truth will become a reality whether man complies with it or not. In 2008, just seven years to the day of 9/11 the landowners began to fail and banks began to collapse. We fed the symptoms by bailouts, and those not receiving them went bankrupt. Man is a poor excuse for god, but man continues to play the role.

This means that Truth will prevail but not as the blessing it was intended because man has cursed all of God's blessings and reset another truth to his own pallet. When a nation recalibrates away from God, he ignorantly sets the prophetic clock of forced Truth, however, instead of receiving the prosperity of it, we receive it in our lack. Man becomes under the hand of his own judgment. He made his choice but does not like what his choice has produced.

This is an election year. How far off course do we intend to go? If you asked anyone what they think is the most important consideration in this country, you will hear them say JOBS and the economy. The more we seek mammon the more it will be our curse. Again, we do not heed the Truth, but in the end Truth will be the reality. No man can stop Truth, but he can repent for having left it, return to God and be blessed or live on the negative side of the Truth as its reality unfolds.

Which of America's gods will back up on us next? The Pharaoh of old made forced abortion on the Jews, and Egypt lost their firstborn. What will happen when we elect a leader like Obama who lifted the ban on partial birth abortions as well as government's intrusion with mandates of contraceptives forced on the churches to offer in contradiction to abstinence? Truth is at our door ready to make its third visit. You can either open the door to Truth and follow its blessings or bolt the door against it and sacrifice the blessing. Truth will come and with it the opportunity to be blessed. Take the opportunity and put your hand to what is right. Make a commitment to morality rather than mammon. We have the choice to welcome the blessings back in this nation or become like the rest of the world and taste its suffering.



DIVIDED WE FALL

"Israel is the only nation on earth that inhabits the same land, bears the same name, speaks the same language, and worships the same God that it did over 3,000 years ago. You dig the soil and you find pottery from Davidic times, coins from Bar Kokhba, and 2,000-year-old scrolls written in a script remarkably like the one that today advertises ice cream at the corner candy store." Charles Krauthammer - The Weekly Standard, May 11, 1998

In 1200 BC the Children of Israel settled in the Land of Canaan after Moses led the twelve Hebrew tribes out of slavery in Egypt and with the conquests of Joshua entered into the Promised Land. She established herself as a sustainable force in the area at the time. However, in a dispute over a king, the Israelites split into the Northern Kingdom of Israel (10 tribes) and the Southern Kingdom of Judah (2 tribes). As we know, a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand, and in 722 BC Israel's reign ended when the ten tribes were conquered by Sargon II, King of Assyria, which is modern day Iran and Syria. Likewise, in 586 BC Judah's reign ended with the conquest of Jerusalem and the Southern Kingdom by Nebuchadnezzar II, King of Babylonia. Most of the Jews were killed, became slaves or were disbursed to other countries. Through the different conquests Israel as a nation was no longer. If you were born in the 1920's, for example, you could not fathom that a prophecy for the nation of Israel as valid because there was no such nation.

Atheists were coming out of the woodwork in the late 1800s because the end time's prophecies could only occur if Israel was a nation, and it was not. It had not been for almost 3000 years, and many of the

"intellectuals" wanted to know when the possibility of those prophecies could conceivably be fulfilled. The end could not have happened in the 1800s. Israel had not been restored to her ancient land. Then, almost overnight, Israel again came into being.

On May 14, 1948, with the help of the US and England, Israel was restored after the holocaust nearly wiped them out; and they have been a force to contend with ever since. On May 15, 1948, Israel was attacked by five Arab countries the very first day of her new existence. This was another prophecy fulfilled because the prophets indicated that even though Israel would be restored and she would thrive, she would never have peace until the end and would be surrounded by her enemies. The prophecies said that in the end, the world would turn against Israel. That would lead the way to the plains to Armageddon and the end of things as we know it. That prophecy has almost been fulfilled. Israel has been surrounded by enemies for years, but treaties have been in place to prevent war. However, with encouragement from the West, Arab leaders are being overthrown. As bad some of these leaders may have been, many were allies of the West. Through American taxpayers, billions of dollars were offered each year if they would promise not to go to war with Israel. It was like giving your lunch money to a bully to prevent being beaten up. The bully takes the money but eventually beats you up anyway. The bully is doing that very thing now. The Muslim Brotherhood, a "terrorist organization", is systematically replacing these leaders one by one and is threatening to end the "peace" with Israel. All the governments surrounding Israel are in tur-

moil or revolt, and they are all Islamic... enemies of Israel.

All Hades is getting ready to break loose. The bullies are coming. While America has been a force with which to contend as standing in partnership with Israel, we have become a silent partner. While this administration makes sounds of supporting Israel publicly, behind closed doors the opposite is true. Sanctions do not seem to matter when your national religion requires you to destroy the "Great Satan". We are considered the Great Satan often accompanied by shouts of "Marg bar Amrika!" Meaning: "Death to America".

Obama told Netanyahu we would support Israel's fight to stop Iran ONLY after the coming election...Just yesterday Obama told Russian President Dmitry Medvedev privately that he had one election left and after that he would have more flexibility. Of course, Obama did not realize that his microphone was still on. The same slip happened with French President Sarkozy. Sarkozy called Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu a liar to which Obama replied, "You are sick of him, but I have to work with him every day." Just what exactly will happen after the election is anybody's guess, but it does not seem to favor Israel.

I do not believe that Obama speaks for all Democrats and certainly not for all Americans, but I give him three strikes:

1. He has done more than any president on behalf of pro-choice.
2. He has done more than any president to infringe the rights of Christians.
3. He has been a most reluctant ally to Israel.

LIVE FIRST/SALVATION LAST

There was a young man who was surrounded by Christians. He lived with them, ate with them, talked with them, and when they went out to witness he was right there. He had heard all the sermons and saw some miracles too. The only difference between him and his friends was that he did not take his faith seriously. He figured he was young and still had things he wanted to do. There was plenty of time later to settle down into Christianity, but he kept his thoughts to himself as his friends and family would not understand. They would probably look down on him or try to do an intervention. He knew that he would be all right in the end because he always seemed to land on his feet. He just wanted some time for his own plans, and they would not understand. Salvation could wait. However, late one night when his Christian friends were not around he gambled on the wrong side of the tracks with some evil characters. "Hey, no one would be hurt," he thought, plus he would make some

money in the process. So there, hidden in the dark, he struck a deal with the gang and got his money. How easy it had been with no one the wiser for his deed. The gang, however, expected something back from him, and before the night was through they would collect by kidnapping and torturing his brother. All of his Christian friends would be hiding for their lives and in deep despair over what had transpired. The young man could never undo what was done. It had all gone out of control so quickly. What was he to do...where was there to go? In despair Judas took a rope and hung himself.

Do you know someone like this who is putting off their salvation walk until they have lived their own lives the way they want? Little do they know that this was just what Judas did.

Salvation is not an altar experience it is an altered life seen in our daily walk and the hour is NOW.