

Trumpet Sounds

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GIFTS

We usually think of presents during this season, but I would like us to put our attention on the gifts.

We read about these gifts in 1Cor 12, which are these:

- •Administrations=diakonia meaning ministries
- •Operations=energema or workings
- •Word of wisdom=Sophia or spiritual wisdom exceeding human understanding
- •Word of knowledge=gnosis Spiritual insight of knowing
- Faith=pistis not meaning the measure of faith given to all but as a spiritual gift of believing suddenly and definitely.
- •Healing=iama the cure (not necessarily quick)
- •Miracles=dunamis force of sudden power to change
- Prophecy=propheteia words of spiritual prediction (not as prognostication)
- •Discerning of spirits= diakrisis or spiritual, judicial disputation
- •Tongues and interpretations=glossa unacquired or unlearned language (not bilingual or necessarily recog-

nized)

We somehow have the idea that these gifts are few and far between for a small number, and some even believe they remain as stone, cold dead with the Apostles. Yet after listing the gifts there is this statement: 1 Cor 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

• *Dividing* is to diaireo that is, *distributing*: - divide.

To every man is hekastos every: - any, each and every (man, woman).

If these are given to everyone, why then do we not see them in "any, each and every" being used?

1 Cor 12:2 Ye know that ye were <u>Gentiles</u>, carried away unto these dumb idols, <u>even as ye</u> were led.

Both the Gentiles and Jews were carried away of idols. Idols are not just images of carved wooden or molten metal, but of anything that we regard over the voice of God. We can be carried away by the humanists, doctors, lawyers, scientist, government leaders, mystics or man's intellect deciding what to follow. Most people

regard others of high degree in which to put their faith. Even Christians become divided over a word of one considered highly esteemed more than the Creator of the universe! There is no scholar or intellect higher than the Maker of him/her.

I am just like any of you and maybe less than some, yet I was given a vision back in the 70's in which I saw the future as well as what I would be doing. The only reason I was given this is because I had ask God a simple question in which He returned a more pregnant answer.

The administrations and operations of my gift is in teaching. Yet in teaching I have received both words of wisdom and knowledge. I have also received prophetic words from the Holy Spirit as well as discerning of spirits, tongues and interpretation. This does not make me a prophet or visionary, but we are all given abilities according to the need confronting us. There is nothing special that I possess except a willingness to use the tool given at the moment it is to be used. This is not to say that I have not experienced failure to pick up on what

God was telling me. Often I mistook it as just my own mind. Yet time always revealed what I thought was just me to be His voice instead. I have learned from my failures. Only those who never learn the voice of God's Spirit suffer more than a failure here or there but end in failure.

Are you too busy to use the gifts within? Do you believe you possess any such gifts? If you do not believe you possess that God DNA, you fall prey to the adversary's lies to keep you at bay. In this the enemy has had amazing success to God's grief. Eph 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Inside this issue:

God's Trumpet/Satan's Destruction	2
Blaspheming the Holy Spirit	3
Preach, Prepare, Prosper	3
O, Rebellious Soul	4
Blood's Voice	4
You In This Hour	5

Page 2 Trumpet Sounds

God's Trumpet/Satan's Destruction

I have read many prophetic words in my time and one thing I have seen is that God's Spirit is speaking in given warnings and direction, however, the mind of man transposes that both the warning and destruction is of God using Old Testament mentalities. I believe in what the prophets are seeing; I just do not believe they are understanding from which kingdom the destruction comes.

My question to all the prophets is this... "Where is Satan in all of this destruction?" Satan is merely mentioned as a by-word in that man who follows Satan's lies will be caught up in God's wrath, judgment and destruction. We quote Job: "Though God slay me, yet will I serve Him."

We do not admit the responsibility of our choices, speaking out fears more than faith or that Satan will inflict destruction to those weak enough to listen buying into the lies.

We need to consider that Satan is playing the part of the destroyer: Rev 12:12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

God came to earth to save us from this enemy and hew away an identity that did not belong to God. How often did Jesus say to anyone who was sick that God was testing him or that their condition was God's judgment and wrath or maybe that sometimes God's answer is no? We come from

Old Testament mentality through the eyes of Jesus to put destruction, sickness, poverty, plague and all manner of evil at Satan's feet and man's lust pulling him toward death. Jesus never cast out God but cast out the devil every time.

Using Jesus' examples and teaching, consider these questions through His eyes:

- Who is the destroyer?
- Who is the tempter?
- Who is the thief?
- In Rev 12:12 (read) whose wrath? Whose wrath in Rom 2:5 (read)?

If we confuse that Satan is God and God is Satan, how can we possibly discern the anti-Christ when it seems to point in God's direction by Old Testament thinking. Mark 13:21-22 And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not: For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.

This is not referring to ordinary mortal men or the worldly, but to God's very elect...the chosen of God.

We must get into the New Testament thinking and reevaluate our enemy to find that he is not God! Reevaluate that Jesus is God and measure your beliefs by Him.

God is not blowing the trumpet of warning to save and prepare us from Him but for our sakes, knowing the enemy has but a short time.

If Jesus' own ELECT disci-

ple, who ate, slept and walked with Him daily, giving up everything else, could be called Peter "The Rock" one minute and Satan the next then even many elect could get some things wrong including prophets? A prophet is validated as a true prophet by the events forewarned being fulfilled only.

As with any war there are two sides fighting against the other. They are clearly opposed to the other. There are two kingdoms at work in end times. One holds the trumpet of warning and the other is the destruction being warned.

Michael, the only archangel mentioned in the Bible, is fighting with his angels against the dragon and his angels. Two kingdoms both have angels against one another Rev 12:7. Understanding this: Rev 7:1-3 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried [krazo scream, shriek, exclaim, intreat: - cry (out).] with a loud [megas big (+ fear) exceedingly, great (est), high, large, loud, mighty, + (be) sore (afraid), strong] voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till the servants of our God have been sealed in their foreheads.

There are four angels getting ready to unleash destruction on the earth, but another angel identified with the seal of God stops them until God can protect His children from this attack. Ask yourself that if all the angels in question were from God why were they not all in unity? Why would one angel, clearly holding the seal of God, scream in a loud command to stop the other four who were not as clearly identified as God's? Were they just stupid angels who misunderstood God's original mission or were they in fact from the opposite kingdom? Remember that Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. Entities of both kingdoms were called angels.

I do not reject the prophets by any means, yet they are regular people called by God to give warnings for our change of heart and safety. Prophets are God's wake up calls and I receive the wake up. Prophets are ordinary people like you and I who are anointed to a call. They are not perfect. They get angry for God like Moses and beat the rock too. Hopefully we have learned from Jesus not to call out the she-bears as Elisha for being called baldy by some little children! Did Elisha's anger make him any less a prophet? No, it just showed him as an imperfect being whose passions ran

God is not Satan, the thief or destroyer. Satan is not on God's payroll. They are not working together as the good cop/bad cop in order to fulfill an end. Satan is deluded. That being said, God is aware of what Satan is going to do and turns it to His own advantage.

Trumpet Sounds Page 3

BLASPHEMING THE HOLY SPIRIT

I recently stumbled upon a panel of men discussing their view of true Christianity by picking small excerpts out of context and using some of the most exaggerated videos of people doing some outrageous contortions, to label all "charismatics". The conference was "Strange Fire" using the Leviticus 10:1 Scripture. They are extreme cessationists coming from this basic philosophy: Cessationism in Christianity is the doctrine that the gifts of the Spirit were apostolic gifts, which ceased with the original twelve apostles. From what did cessationism originate? Well here is the list of those well known for it: Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Matthew Henry, C.H. Spurgeon, Charles Hodge, and a multitude of current leaders of the "extreme" such as John Macarthur & Norman Geisler.

However, extreme cessationism believes that "Visions, Revelations, Voices from Heaven, Messages from the Spirit, Dreams, Speaking in Tongues, Prophecies, Anointings, Miracles, ALL LIES, ALL FALSE, ALL DE-CEPTION." – quote from "The Modern Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit" by Pastor John MacArthur. This is not the only thing they are against; they mock Catholics and Mormons too.

This is not a new concept, but one that Jesus faced in His day.

Looking at the Old Testament patriarchs of faith with the divine power, signs and gifts of the Spirit of God such as Elisha, Elijah and Moses to name a few. Then comes along a common man come from little Podunk, Nazareth into the picture healing the sick, restoring the blind and deaf, causing the lame to take up their mats and walk and yes, even raising the dead! But the signs and gifts were dead with those old Patriarchs...right? How dare he do these things? ALL LIES, ALL FALSE, ALL DECEP-TION...to quote a phrase. But the Pharisees, being extreme cessationists, kept everything status quo. They labeled Jesus a heretic and blasphemer too. There were those not so extreme cessationists like Nicodemus who wanted to understand.

Jesus was criticized for eating with publicans and sinners. He cast out devils because He was a devil or so they said. His disciples did not fast and ate with unwashed hands, so the elite religious leaders had a conference mocking him and all like him that were deluded into thinking that signs and wonders were for their day.

Yes, extreme cessationism is not a new concept and Jesus addressed it with these words:

(Matt 23:13-34 read all.) Here are some excerpts: But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom

of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in...and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation...ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves...ye have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ve to have done, and not to leave the other undone...Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel...

We see the Pharisees and Sadducees in the flavor of this extreme example of cessationism, which reveals that they are ever alive in the land today. These religious Pharisees are still holding conferences of "strange fire" labeling and mocking all those who believe in healing and miracles and what is even worse... TONGUES! They disregard this: Mark 16:16-18 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. If the gifts are gone then so are the believers. Believer is the word pisteuo-those who trust in Jesus. Jesus said His word would never pass away even to the end of this earth and after. Jesus addressed both the *extreme cessationist* and "*them that believe*" in Matt 23 AND Mk 16.

2 Tim 3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. The word for power is: δύναμις dunamis: force, miraculous power (usually by implication a miracle itself): - ability, might (-ily, -y, -y deed), (worker of) miracle (-s), power, strength, violence, mighty (wonderful) work.

Extreme cessasionists say that those who believe in the gifts of the Spirit are blaspheming the Holy Spirit and in danger of damnation. They disregard the content leading up to that verse on blaspheming, which is where they accuse Jesus of casting out devils by Beelzebub. His response is directed at the Pharisees who are calling those gifts of the devil Matt 12:22-31.

31 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

Blaspheming the Holy Spirit is no little matter and those judging it wrongly will be judged by it.

PREACH, PREPARE, PROSPER

Noah was called the preacher of righteousness. He was the trumpet of his day warning of an impending and drastic event. He may have rallied the people at first or even in waves, but close to the time in question they fell into apostasy and left his words behind them.

Only Noah had prepared food and water, while the rest lived for now. Maybe some thought that "if" anything really happened they could still tap into prosperity from good ol' Noah, yet we know what happened in that scenario.

Likewise today we have more than one trumpet sounding the news to prepare. People may listen at first or as waves of evidence point to the warnings, they listen and wonder, but prepare little. They know the people who are faithfully preparing for the event and perhaps think they too will seek them out "if" anything were to happen. For them it is the same scenario as a plane going down, but before it crashes they jump out at the last minute or as an elevator plummets to the ground their plan is to jump in the last second. In Noah's case there was a door that

shut. Do we want to chance that we can do a last second exertion into safety without the possibility that there will be another door shut?

It behooves us to learn the lessons of history: 1 Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

Page 4 Trumpet Sounds

O, REBELIOUS SOUL

Ps 6:2-3 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed. My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?

Looking at that confession we see a soul who has lived for itself away from God's promises and now when his spirit is willing his soul's rebellious nature has surfaced and he is weak. Not only does he say that he is vexed but amplifies it by adding that he is sore vexed! His soul is fighting against his spirit. Civil war has broken out and his body is paying the price in its weakened condition as well as his mind being sore vexed. For him there is no peace.

I have counseled these people whose souls have lived life vicariously in careless

abandon to all desires finding themselves weakened and vexed as they wonder why God does not speed up the process of their healing. Their spirit is ready and willing to move forward and finally man is telling his soul to behave itself and "shut up". However, the soul is responding with back talk, "YOU SHUT UP! I don't have to listen to you!" Years of allowing the soul to do whatever it has wanted has made for one spoiled, rebellious soul. It takes work at this late stage to convert the soul to its true destiny. Although rather than see the fault of the soul, they will turn and blame God: Ps 13:1 -2 How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me? Yet, in truth, the answer is in the very next confession: 2

How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?

How long will we allow the misguided soul to counsel our ways? The soul is very much like the spoiled children who wear out their parents by making demands and throwing fits to achieve their own immature desires.

When the parent tries to get the child to understand his folly, the child throws a fit until a worn out parent relinquishes all good sense. This is what happens with our soul against our spirit. The more control the soul has been given the worse it becomes until it has become the monster that cannot control itself either.

There is a disconnect of the soul and spirit. A breach

from the soul causing a rift as each blessing falls in the abyss right in front of us. This is when we see that... (Hag 1:6) Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

This is surely where God is telling each of us to gird up now thy loins like a man/ woman of the Living God and walk in the Word of Life. No more "whining" and dining the flesh helplessly, but walking as men and women of purpose and destiny. Let your spirit increase and your soul decrease in Him. It is always harder the more you delay, but it is still possible!

BLOOD'S VOICE

We know that blood has a voice: Gen 4:10 And he (God to Cain) said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

Human blood has a voice that God hears. Our life is in the blood and it cries to God when it is spilled.

Satan uses false blood that has no voice of its own but the whisper of Satan's voice. This is shown in the event of Joseph's supposed death. Jacob's sons tricked their father into believing false blood evidence: Gen 37:31-33 And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood; And

they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no. And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.

This false blood, having no voice but assumption, spoke loudly and clearly its lies. From that moment on Jacob allowed this false blood evidence to grip his heart in perpetual grief. We know how deeply grief stricken he was by this: Gen 37:35 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.

Jacob reflected upon his life to the Pharaoh years later:

Gen 47:9 And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.

The assumption of false blood had made his days few and evil. His grief had its reach through every year.

That same voice of human

blood which cried out to God is the same blood which cried out to God through Jesus for the sake of mankind.

The voice of blood is crying forgiveness of sin and redemption bringing man back to God. Yet Satan asserts false blood evidence to divert our way back with legalistic arguments that ours sins have made us dead to God and unworthy to receive forgiveness. When our thinking unites with this false blood evidence, we discount all that God says we are by becoming both ineffectual and unproductive.

It is time for us to believe the voice of Jesus' blood and become who we truly are in God's Kingdom!

YOU, IN THIS HOUR Shannan O'Connor France

In almost every church across the planet, congregations have always sung "Arise shine for thy light is come...and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." However, they never grab on to the second part of Isaiah 60 - "For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee."

That said, God has been preparing you for this very hour. Darkness is over the earth and gross darkness the people. You were born for such a time as this. God knew when Jacob's trouble would come and He's chosen you to be there. What does that say about you?

God has so much confidence in you. He looked ahead in time and chose you to be here on earth, living at this very time. You have an ability to do something that no one else in your bloodline or generation had.

John the Baptist, Jeremiah,
Daniel, King David, Billy Graham, Oral Roberts, Smith Wigglesworth, A.A. Alan, Bob Jones
Sr., Dwight Moody, Paul Crouch,
Martin Luther King, David
Wilkerson, Father Malachi Martin, John Wesley...these are just a
few of the hero's of faith. They
thought they would see what
you're about to see. You have
been chosen for the end-time
army by the Creator of the Universe. God has saved the best of

every generation for now. God has saved the best of every bloodline for now. He has planned and purposed you for this very time because He's put something in you that no one else has in their being. God never makes mistakes. You have the ability for God's Kingdom. You are not here by accident. Since before the foundations of the earth, you were designed by the Living God, for this very hour, to be a solution.

During these end-times, people that don't know God will look around them in anguish at all they've lost. But people that know God will look straight to Him and ask, "What can I do to further Your kingdom?" This is heavenly thinking.

We, as Godly people, absolutely have to take time each day to "be still and know that He is God" because peace is the soil for revelation. We also must have true dialogue with our Creator: we speak - He speaks. The Holy Spirit actually searches the depths of God in order to give you revelation. This is what sets you apart from everyone else.

Psalms 24 - The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean

hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. THIS IS THE **GENERATION OF THEM** THAT SEEK HIM, THAT SEEK THY FACE, O Selah. Lift up JACOB. your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah

"I hope you find this encouraging. These are thoughts that I've had for awhile and I've said this stuff, but to have it in writing in front of me - it's like a safety blanket that has materialized."

-Shannan France

