

Trumpet Sounds

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Inside this issue:

In That Moment	2
Courage	2
Canned Goods	3
Those Flippin' Words	3
Hollywood's Defining Moment	4
Punctuation Of Life	4
Little Birdie	4
Wild Goose	5
Understanding The Voice	5

DYSFUNCTION JUNCTION

Mark 9:38-40 And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbad him, because he followeth not us. 39 But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. 40 For he that is not against us is on our part.

John judged, criticized and stopped someone who was not "one of them". There was a division John placed on those who were "of them" and those, in his estimation, who were not. How many of us judge who is right in God and who is not whether openly like John or secretly? Notice also that God is not nervous about gender as He calls all believers, both male and female, Sons of God (John 1:12) and The Bride of Christ, which is a real gender bender! God's Word strips all barriers by saying: *Gal 3:28-29 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

We are neither a gender nor denominationally driven

church that the Word of God should be divided. The church has been a dysfunctional family trying to get things done. We have attacked and destroyed our own.

This is a new day of taking the Scriptures to heart. One thing Benjamin Franklin knew: "We will either hang together or hang separately." The church cannot function divided, as the Word tells us that a house divided falls.

Eighty-five percent of the church came together for this election. Many church leaders gathered together from all over for the first time in a long time to ask questions and get understanding in this crucial time. The church ended up having the deciding factor over Hollywood and the media machine. It did not happen by accident, but by soul-searching, fervent prayer. We became terribly united for the first time in a long while. This is a resolve that we must not see divided again. Have we not yet learned that the Christians are what the world finds in a "basket of deplorables" with every phobia they can attach?

John's thoughts may have been divided, but he learned to call us all "Sons of God" who believed on Jesus. Saul may have persecuted Christians as deplorables, but had his vision restored, his name changed to Paul and became one of the deplorables he had persecuted writing this: Gal 3:28-29.

If John and Saul can be accepted as well as used of God, how can we divide ourselves because of denomination, culture, gender or color?

This is a time for Christians to unite in the name of Jesus. This is not about whether we believe in miracles or speak in tongues...this is about the unity of Love through Christ. Religion has always been the great divider, yet Jesus broke all religious barriers and hung on a tree so that LOVE would prevail, no matter one another's flaws. Before Jesus hung on the tree, He pointed to the tree bearing no fruit in its season and commanded it to wither (Mt 21:18-19). Trees were symbolic for religious leaders. We remember how the Pharisees were in contention with Jesus every Word and deed. Jesus was criticized for breaking all of

their rules, and they had formed many!

If we are on Jesus' part, even though we differ in many ways, we are accepted. Jesus accepted twelve very different men as disciples before they had learned many Truths. How is it then that we are more than perfect to eliminate someone because they do not worship the same, look the same, enter the same building or temple etc. Without the differences in the male and female there is no birth, likewise without accepting all the differences in each of us, we are not a body. We need to remember that we are a body, church and bride of Christ. *John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

IN THAT MOMENT

"You can never learn that Christ is all you need, until Christ is all you have." — Corrie ten Boom

Reading this we understand Corrie's view, from a terrifying prison camp and the loss of family to personal survival, the very depth of this quote.

She was sent from one camp to Ravensbruck Concentration camp in Germany where her closest companion and sister Betsie, who made what life she had bearable, died leaving her devastatingly alone.

You do not have to be in a Ravensbruck or an Auschwitz to know the bonds of prison camp. Despair reaches many different venues where Corrie's quote comes to mind.

Maybe it is the loss of a loved one or child. The word can-

cer has just been diagnosed giving weeks to months left to live. Your child or grandchild could have been arrested, and you open the door to a couple of blue uniforms delivering the message. The soldier you kissed goodbye has returned in a pine box. The list can go on and on from an abused daughter to a drug addicted son and you learn in that moment that Christ is all you need because you come to the realization that He is all you have and the only strength on which you can be sure. Jesus is the only light at the end of a very long, dark tunnel, yet the light seems dim because you have not yet come to the tunnel's end.

The next thought might be, "What do I do now?" If you know the Word you know

what comes to mind is: Having done all...STAND. *Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

If you have invested in the armor of God, it is because you know His Living Word resides in your heart. No matter how often your heart is broken, it is Jesus who heals it back.

Satan has declared war on our lives and the lives of those we love. None escape the casualties though the degree of it may be more difficult in one moment's time than another.

Learning that Jesus is all we have to count on in the good days, helps us not go through the lesson of learning it "in that moment".

One thing we can ill afford is to be buck naked in the battle because it never comes when you expect it, but in that one moment of being blindsided.

This is the day to get the chinks out of the armor and make sure that everything is in place.

Instead of waiting for the moment, it is time to TAKE THE MOMENT by leaving the trenches and taking the hill. The moment can take us or we can take it. Whether things change the way you hope, your hope will not be disappointed at the end of the tunnel greeting you with reward for your diligence in trusting Him.

The battle is in PRAYER. GO TO IT!

COURAGE

Courage is, by definition, the quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger, pain, etc., without fear; bravery. It is also mental or moral strength of faith to persevere by resisting fear to see victory before it comes.

Courage is an attribute of good character all wish they had, yet the world finds difficult to attain. Hollywood makes characters of courage, yet away from their scripts they forget what it looks like. The Bible is full of the courage both in men and women of God who faced the impossible and made it possible with God's strength and the willingness to trust His Word.

Courage is building a huge boat for no apparent reason against scoffing critics. It is the smallest boy going against a giant warrior of trained skill in fighting and winning with the smallest weapon because that boy knew something more about his God. It is you and I pulling down strongholds in daily battles with our prayers. The courage is in never giving up no matter how dark our surroundings because we know something more about our God!

The opposite of courage is DIS-courage. The origin of "dis" is a Latin prefix meaning apart, asunder, away, or having a reversing force with these relating examples:

*Discourage-not having courage
Discontent-not being content
Disbelief-not believing
Disability-not having ability*

Had Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego allowed discouragement to rule over them to the discontentment of their souls with disbelief, they would have been disabled and the story would have been drastically altered.

In the face of anything negative the enemy throws at us, no matter its facade, he also throws discouragement alongside it, and its relatives breed discontentment, disbelief and disability for a drastically altered outcome than the one we hoped.

At a time when the disciples were terrified, Jesus said in Matt 14:27, "**Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.**" (NIV) ***Deut 31:6 Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.*** ***Josh 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.*** ***Ps 31:24 Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD.***

Do not DIS your courage.

CANNED GOODS

To start, let me just define the verb canning: *the process in which one preserves foods for use in the future when needed.* The Word of God is filled with CANNed goods giving us license of all we CAN do through Christ. We store these words of promise for future use because they are food for our spirit to recall as needed. What we do not preserve we do not have in either natural stored goods or spiritual. *Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.* Do you see this canned good has a vitamin effect to strengthen us? Plus it is a spiritual multivitamin inclusive to ALL the daily

requirements! Or what about this can of “whoop-ass”: *Luke 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*

This canned good should never stay too long on the shelf: *Pro 17:22 A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.* That is better than an apple a day keeping the doctor away!

The more we *can*, the more we have on which to rely in a dark day.

This is a generation of storing goods because we do not

know what tomorrow will bring. You hear of survivalists storing and canning.

Noah did not just rely on canned goods for survival because before he set his store, he was obedient to every word God had given him. It was not canning tomatoes that preserved Daniel in the lion's den or David facing a giant. We see many “can-doers” in the Scriptures.

Satan has reduced “canning” to mean just the opposite: to dismiss, give the ax to, fire. The enemy wants us to dismiss the promises and buy into the fear of the moment forgetting anything we may

have stored because the dust has covered over the shelves for lack of continued storing and just forgetting what we had set up in years past.

Let me help refresh your storehouse and give you a can of mine to get you started on building up your own store again: *John 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.*

If Jesus did it we have been given the goods to can. Start storing and remember to open them as needed.

THOSE FLIPPIN' WORDS

I pray fairly routinely with my partner in pulling down strongholds...Bev. While in prayer, she began to take back words the enemy had stolen. Being “me”, I took it into the next step to research just what good words have been transformed.

Pro-choice should not mean infanticide but pro meaning good, positive choices. Pro is to be for something good as well as being a pro at it. *Gay's* origin was to be happy and light-hearted. *Faggot's* origin was a bundle of sticks or twigs, while faggoting is metalworking, knitting or a feather stitch. *“Bad”* used to be a negative or poor quality but today it can also mean good or great: *(Isaiah 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!)*

“Sick” used to mean ill. To-

day, it also means something is really amazing. *“Thongs”* used to be something you wore on your feet and now it means something to barely cover your...butt! *“Awful”* used to mean something that inspired awe...full of awe. Today, it means something is bad or that someone looks terrible.

But you did not know that *“silly”* used to refer to things worthy or blessed; from there it came to refer to the weak and vulnerable, and more recently to those who are foolish. *“Hussy”* used to be the word for housewife and now is a woman of disrepute, yet *housewife* has also taken a nose dive downward meaning a woman of no prospects. One you may not know is that *“sad”* started with the meaning of satisfied or sated, also sometimes steadfast or firm. It then

went from serious, to grave, to sorrowful. *“Smug”* first meant crisp, tidy, and presentable. A well-dressed person was smug in this way, which later came to mean self-satisfied and conceited. *“Devious”* comes from *de via*, off the way. It meant distant or off the road. It took on the meaning of wandering like: to stray from the right path, changing it into scheming and deceitful. *“Bully”* was a term of endearment for men or women. A bully could be a good friend or a sweetheart. It then came to stand for a swaggering braggart digressing to a coward who picks on others.

The enemy has not just flipped everyday language, but the meaning of Scriptures by changing the way they are quoted, for example: *1 Cor 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you*

but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

That Scripture refers to God intervening what the tempter (satan) has brought by providing an escape route for us. Preachers have changed the tempter, which we know can only be satan, into God as benefactor of the trial. The flip that is quoted goes like this: *“God will not PUT more on you than you can bear...”* God was flipped into the role of “tempter” in this perverted twist of words. I hear this quoted incorrectly all the time by well-meaning Christians.

Jesus is the WORD and it is high time to flip the negatives and take back the Word and our words from the enemy's camp.

HOLLYWOOD'S DEFINING MOMENT

Arrogance is having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's own importance or abilities with these synonyms: haughty, conceited, self-importance, egotistic, full of oneself, superior, overbearing, pompous, presumptuous, imperious, proud, immodest, high and mighty, too big for one's britches, big-headed, and puffed up

These are people holding the Script everyone should follow, even though they claim the starring role. They surround themselves with applause and accolades as they sign autographs for their adoring fans or the lesser knowns of the world. Everything must de-

fault to their whims and the will of their choices or the world itself cannot exist. They threaten the population that if they do not get their way, they will take all their marbles and head for distant shores. These are promises never kept, however. The proud and arrogant set about with whining and tantrums so focused on the absurd that the fans begin to turn a deaf ear wishing they would stick to characters of honor that they have portrayed on screen hoping that somehow it would rub off, but alas it is as the man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets

what he looks like. (James 1:23-24)

The definition of actors is a person who is void of self to play another character with an altogether different personality and set of circumstances. They are not real people but act as if they are. In other words, they are scripted with actions accompanied by dialog filled with exaggerated emotion...drama. Faker is another definition that fits since it means a pretender or counterfeit and forger...fraudulent. Is it any wonder that actors lose themselves playing these roles.

Actors are people on a page of memorized words wearing



designer originals and borrowed bling. They walk on red carpets with an ever glowing limelight burning overhead. Yet, the crowns come off at night and they are left to themselves burning the midnight oil on the next script to study who they will be tomorrow. Their only glory is a shelf of statuettes that cannot comfort their secret sorrows.

My prayer is that Hollywood would stop viewing the ever changing mirror of facelifts and reconstruct their hearts in a better Scrip-ture and attitude. Hollywood needs the voice of real Truth and purpose, in Jesus' Name.

PUNCTUATION OF LIFE

"Let's eat, Grandma." Is vastly different than "Let's eat Grandma!" Here is another: "I saw a man, eating lobster." "I saw a man-eating lobster."

As you can see punctuation plays a big part on the content of what is being said.

The Hebrew language had no punctuation until the translators added it for flow. Example: *Isa 59:19 When the enemy shall come in like a*

flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him. We see, by the comma's placement, the enemy as an overwhelming power. I like to change the power of the Scripture where I believe it should be: *When the enemy shall come in, like a flood the Spirit of the Lord shall lift a standard.* The power of the sentence has just been shifted merely by the punctuation given.

It is the same with adversities that come into our lives and we see it through the eyes of an exclamation point!!!! It is our prayers that should be fervently declaring with the exclamation point toward the enemy. I have heard too many punctuating Satan's efforts with more overwhelming power than the might of God's ability to intervene.

Most people know that Satan will attack them, but are not

as sure that God has the power to deliver them. People are more likely to believe in the attack and question the healing.

We need to see God as the exclamation point and end the enemy's attack...period, end of story.

It would be a more prosperous life if we could get the punctuation right.

LITTLE BIRDIE

I heard a friend tell a true story of watching a baby bird fall from its nest and into the their Labrador's pen. The dog just lay there and opened his mouth, while the birdie ran straight into it. The dog did not work up a sweat. The birdie, however, in the fear of the moment ran in the wrong direction, and it was over in one gulp.

The same thing happened to Cain. Cain was jealous of Abel. God said, *Gen 4:7...sin is crouching* (as a predator on all fours waiting to devour) *at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it...*

Cain fell in the lion's pen, became disoriented and lost direction. In a fit he ran to-

ward the devouring lion crouching in wait and in one act...one gulp his life in the garden was over.

It is amazing how it only takes one disoriented moment of losing our direction to be a gulp away from disaster.

My friend telling the story thought the birdie was stupid, but having just fallen from the nest, I figured it just did not

know a friend from a foe.

That is the way for many who, through whatever means, end up in the enemy's pen losing sight of their direction.

It is wisdom for all mother and father birds to equip their birdies with a moral compass in the Word so they know which direction to take when the lion is crouching at the door.

WILD GOOSE

God communicates in such unique ways that is “out of the box” for humans. This is probably due to the fact that as humans we would probably disregard these messages if they did not puzzle us a enough to get our attention. For example, recently I read an article of a prophetic dream given to Charles Shamp on Dec. 31. In it he was at a country fair, as the sign entering said “Country’s Fair”, which changed to “The Country’s Affairs”. There were tents just as you would see at a fair, but representing the nations. (He felt, “...as if I was brought to a secret gathering where the leaders of the world were discussing different affairs of the nations.”)

Just as he noticed turmoil coming from all the tents, he saw Trump coming out of one tent changing into a

dove...then changed into a wild goose and flew. The other world leader emerged from their tents after Trump...all turning into doves and then wild geese. Charles then recognizes the Holy Spirit, from other dreams and visions he had experienced, coming over to him. When Charles asked the understanding of this, the Holy Spirit replied: ***“Look up! This is what your President has done. He’s chasing the wild goose, everything is about to change!”*** As he looked up, still in the dream, he saw a myriad of geese flying in V formation and understood the meaning he had in November visiting in the Isle of Iona. This was the location he had been lead to pray accompanied by his two sons on Election Day. The reason of the

location’s relationship to Trump is that Trump’s mother was of Scottish descent. (*Background is that from that Isle Christianity spread to the UK and Europe through the efforts of an apostolic leader Columba. There was a known portal called “The Hill Of Angels” on that isle where angels are said to have ascended and descended just like Jacob’s ladder, Gen 28:12. There Columba was anointed to meet with the angels and discussed the affairs of nations. Columba was also known to anoint the kings of Scotland generally as well as kings of other nations. There are 48 Scottish kings with a total number of 60 kings buried there.*)

Charles and his sons felt lead to pray for God to anoint Trump as the next president of the USA.

Still, why the wild goose? In our American minds we think

of a wild goose chase in a more negative definition of time wasting. However, in Scottish understanding it is a symbolic reference by Celtic Saints to be another name for the Holy Spirit!!! It also represents blessing, wealth and prosperity.

Now, my name is not Ripley, but you can ***believe it or not***, since it is time that will match the vision’s Truth or show it to be one of the wildest coincidences ever! That being said, with all the attacks of the enemy over Trump’s inauguration, we had better be as fervent in our prayers as Charles. After all, we can do this praying from the comfort of our own homes without the expense of a ticket to Iona! AMEN?

(Another fact I found recently not mentioned in Charles Shamp’s article is that **Saint Columba** in Irish is **Colm Cille**, “church dove” or “dove of the church”).

UNDERSTANDING THE VOICE

I have had years of communication with the Holy Spirit and have learned to recognize His voice, though it is not actually audible. I know when it is the Holy Spirit.

I have described this in the previous article as “out of the box” thinking because it does not resemble my thought process. Sometimes it comes as a picture I vaguely see as if in front of my forehead and sometimes it is a single word or phrase vaguely seen in the same way but accompanied with understanding. This is the best way I have of describing it. I have not discussed this with others to come to a common consensus that it is the same for everyone. This is not ESP or mental telepathy as the mediums use to communicate with dead ancestors, etc. I have also had dreams in night visions and day visions with the understanding. I

think that all Christians have this ability but do not always if ever recognize or use it.

The first experience with this that I recall was seeing the face of a friend of my grandmother. The thought that accompanied was wondering if she would be surprised to know someone was thinking about her or that anyone cared. I had neither thought about her for years...many years nor had I seen her. I felt compelled to write and let her know that I was thinking about her and reminisce about some of the good times we had at my grandparents. (She was included to their family functions being friends, neighbors and having never married or had children of her own. Plus my grandparents had long since passed and we had lost touch with her.) I finished the letter to

Loretta and set in on the kitchen counter to mail when I got around to it. By the week’s end with the letter still on the counter I got a call from my mother who told me that Loretta had tried to commit suicide because no one cared about her, and she felt so alone and depressed!! THAT LETTER could have prevented what became a tragedy from which she never fully recovered. I was very distraught with God that He had not made it clearer that this was not simply a good idea of mine. He, however, let me know that it was I who needed to pay more attention to His voice. Of course the letter to Loretta was my vaccination to be still and know that God is God. The more I considered the voice of the Holy Spirit the more I heard it, and the more I heard it the more I recognized it. Those dreams, vision and com-

munication’s are always inline with Scripture even if not verbatim. I am a firm believer in ***Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?*** (The Word and the voice of the Holy Spirit agree always.)

Have you ever thought of a person and then you either hear news of that person or the person calls “out of the blue”? Have you ever had a nagging dream that you cannot shake because it seems to mean something but you are not sure what? Have you thought to call someone and they call you first about the same thing? We have a spirit that is in tune with Holy Spirit trying to speak to us. Our flesh usually out thinks the spirit, but it is time to start listening closer to the Spirit. Start considering that inner voice. It is a valued gift disguised as your own voice. Wake up the power within.