

THE SHIFT: REVISITED

by Rev. Chris Meier

The first time the Lord gave me this word was in 2003. It concerned a shift coming with various changes to world events and political leadership, among other things. After this word was shared in three parts, an actual tsunami took place which shifted the earth on its axis. That was in December of 2004. Politically here in the states, a socialist-communist by the name of Barack Obama made plans to run for office. He won his state's senate seat. Thereafter, he successfully ran for President of the United States. He took this country backward from its successful economy, military, and even proclaiming America was no longer a Christian nation. That shift in attitude produced a change among many in our nation.¹

The next time the Lord asked me to look at the three-part word given in 2003, was in 2018. Donald Trump was in the second year of his first four-year term as President of the United States. He was doing everything he could to fix an economy broken by Obama; a military that had been sorely neglected; laws which were being ignored to the point that we were on the brink of anarchy, among many things. In 2018 we were on the brink of the anarchy Obama set us up for. In 2020, as many of you know, an election took place that we have proven was overwhelmed by fraud. So much so that a documentary was made titled "2000 Mules."² It documented the "mules" who collectively carried millions of fraudulent ballots. They were able to uncover the fraud by geo tracking the mules' cell phones. So effective is this tracking that our military, most tracking firms who sell or steal our data, as well as foreign military like the CCP use it to track their citizens. This documentary even solved an old murder, which had gone unsolved when the officials realized they had scooped up the data from the cell phone of the murderer, proving many things, including the fact that he was in the area when the murder occurred.

In October of 2025, the Lord said He wanted the "shift word" put up as the 'Feature Article.' Well, I have to apologize, but the holidays became busier

¹ <https://christianeducatorsacademy.com/did-obama-say-america-is-no-longer-a-christian-nation>

² <https://therokuchannel.roku.com/details/e2fc027b5916f8d0e32071d6c0db73d5/2000-mules>

than I anticipated. I just could not get to this word, even with it not being “new” in the sense that I have to write it from the beginning. But if you know what it is like to receive “words” from the Lord, you know that any particular word never leaves you until it is delivered or accomplished in some way that the Holy Spirit has asked for it to be delivered (Isaiah 55:11). It probably would have been easier for me to write it immediately in October. This word has permeated through me since October of 2025. I’m going to type out the whole chapter of Isaiah 55 (KJV), but Verse 11 is the specific passage we can understand for this principle.

Isaiah 55:

“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? Hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people. Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee. Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: ***So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*** For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be

to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off” (Isaiah 55:1-13).

So Here We Are

You can see from the bold print Verse 11 of Isaiah 55, that God’s word always goes forth and never returns to Him void. Think about the nonsense the communist-socialists have done since October. We now have a communist mayor in New York City and socialist-communist governors in a few states since October. You might also ask the pertinent question: What has changed? If you accept my assertion that the Lord has given me this word, then you might ask the question: What is shifting?

The more this word has ruminated in my spirit, the more I’ve sought Him for advice on what direction the shift is coming. In October of 2025, my first thought was not political. With the history of the first time I received the word, a literal shift of the planet took place. The second time Father had me re-share the word, it mainly was political. This time I believe we will see a major shift in the religious world. I also believe we will see a political shift. It grieves me to think that Democrats will lie and weasel their way into leadership again. I’m upset because when they got the purse strings with Biden and regained the White House as well as both legislative bodies, our lives were made exceedingly difficult. If DOGE has taught us anything, the theft of taxpayer money was horrendous.³ It didn’t take long before we discovered how badly immigrants have stolen Federal funds from California to Minnesota; New York, Ohio and back to other western states like Oregon and Washington.⁴

We are in a serious mess. When Trump got back into the White House, it became obvious how badly the Biden Administration treated our military and how severely depleted their funds are. To keep up with our enemies we need at least four more carrier ships and probably ten or more other types of

³ <https://craiggoldman.house.gov/DOGE>

⁴ < <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/breaking-doj-announces-98-total-arrests-in-minnesota-fraud-case-85-of-somali-descent-ar-AA1Tfub5>> < <https://www.fox9.com/news/where-fraud-has-been-uncovered-other-states-analysis-dec-2025> >< <https://oversight.house.gov/release/chairman-comer-widens-investigation-into-fraud-in-minnesotas-social-services-programs> >

vessels. The reality is we do not have these funds. Had Trump not implemented the tariff system back into the country, we would be in dire straights. We need at least five more years of responsible fiscal behavior before we can even think of allowing socialists to become in control of any single operation. It seems many voters simply do not understand the danger this country is in if we return to the wanton, as well as illegal policies of the socialists (democrats).

With six justices on the Supreme Court overturning the president's IEEPA tariffs, (International Emergency Economic Powers Act),⁵ I have no idea what state our economy will be in. I've read some of the dissenting justices reviews. My legal schooling is limited because my work did not require me to get a law degree. While I needed quite a bit of legal knowledge, I don't have the same legal facts lawyers have. But, it's good enough to realize the dissenting justices are correct. Most Americans don't know that socialism must invade not only our cultural and economic lives, it must corrupt our legal systems. The laws of liberty and freedom will overcome all socialistic legal review, if followed and given the time.

Unfortunately, President Bush put a hidden socialist at the chief justice's chair. John Roberts upheld the crazy law forbidding anyone to eat on the Washington, DC transit system. How did he do that? Well, let me say that the forest for the trees for this guy is a life lesson. He upheld the arrest of a twelve year-old girl.⁶ Her crime? She grabbed a McDonald's on the way home from school— And as those fries kept wafting into her nostrils, the growl in her stomach told her eyeballs nobody was looking. She literally grabbed one fry and popped it into her mouth while in the subway. The sirens screamed and the police showed up. Yep, that's what communist countries do: They arrested the child because she dared to grab that fry. Roberts upheld the arrest when he was the district justice. You might say, well a law is a law. No folks, that's the point for a conservative justice. They can't make new law, but they can make a point that arresting a twelve year-old because a Happy Meal carries weight, is not the point for the legal system.

⁵ <http://link.breitbart.com/view/5d13d9f52ddf9c59f07f07efqck6f.53xb/f9d891bd>

⁶ <https://nypost.com/2005/07/20/judge-derailed-d-c-small-fry>

I have written solid proof on this website concerning reasons why socialism does not follow science.⁷ Communism and socialism are one and the same. The only difference is that with socialism they take your liberty, money and freedoms through “paper work” (laws and ordinances), while communism takes everything through the point of violence. When a law is so ridiculous that everyday life must be enforced at gunpoint, that’s when we’ve lost sight of freedom. I’m sorry but illegal foreigners do not belong in our country, and there is a reason for that.

If we look at the “peaceful protests” in Minneapolis, it is easy to see the ‘shift’ in policy. There is nothing peaceful in bringing a gun to a riot or running over law enforcement with a car. I am sorry to see people die. The Biden Administration broke countless laws by opening our borders to just about everyone across the globe.⁸ It grieves me that republicans and democrats did virtually nothing to stop them. I understand why republicans did very little— they did not have the numbers; but democrats? They all should have stood up and shouted from the rooftops that Mayorkas, as well as most of the Biden Administration that allowed that fiasco, should have been arrested and thrown in jail. Republicans did call Mayorkas before their committee⁹, but they did not have the votes to arrest him or remove him.¹⁰

⁷ Head on over to the ‘Archives Tab’ on this website < <https://www.ccm4worldwideworship.org/page-2.html> > This is page two, scroll down to the titles “Economics and the Bible” and “The Lie” to read a concise reason why socialism can’t succeed from both natural science as well as the biblical record. Also click on “July 2016.”

⁸ This is a list of the various countries’ visas being paused because these “immigrants” can’t sustain themselves and will become wards of the government: < <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news/immigrant-visa-processing-updates-for-nationalities-at-high-risk-of-public-benefits-usage.html> > By the way, this was always the law. Immigrants were to be allowed in the country unless they could sustain themselves. But they have wracked up \$38 Trillion. You may have heard the lie that this is spending on citizens care. IT IS NOT! This is spending on legal as well as illegal aliens! Nevertheless, YOU as an American citizen is on the hook for this violation of trust.

⁹ <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/1589006/mayorkas-called-before-congress-for-seventh-time-as-dhs-laments-baseless-attacks/>

¹⁰< <https://thehill.com/video-clips/4602226-mayorkas-testifies-before-senate-day-after-impeachment-charges-dismissed-watch-live/>>< <https://www.fox5atlanta.com/news/mayorkas-impeachment-house-gop-votes-to-oust-dhs-secretary> >< <https://www.nationalreview.com/news/mayorkas-admits-border-crisis-to-congress-for-first-time/> >

For some odd reason, most American citizens don't know that living expenses became out of control because of unfettered immigration. Our country is literally broke because of the fraud, waste and abuse that Trump is always desperate to expose. When you look at the \$38 trillion we are under water for economically, it is because of the fraud in our social programs: federal money given to states that have allowed this debauchery to continue by giving all these "new voters" or illegal immigrants all this money. It grieves me to think that even with Trump's economic policies solving our huge deficits, that by democrats and the Supreme Court stopping his tariff policies, we will remain in an economic hole. If democrats regain control, they will almost certainly begin the fraud, waste and abuse again.¹¹

You might ask yourself the question why anyone would want to bankrupt a country and cause such chaos. Well, in order for socialism to gain control, it must cause chaos. The democrats understand that thinking adult voters would not vote them in once American voters realize that, as well as understanding that democrats must raise taxes to ungodly levels in order to do so. So, they must bring in new voters. Well, there is no way to do that legally. A system must be enacted to attempt to do that legally or not. This is what Mayorkas and Biden did from 2020 to 2024. I could go on proving this, but it's not the only issue.

Foreign Attack

There is another problem we miss when socialists or democrats and corrupted judges attack our laws and people. It is the atmosphere it presents to our enemies and foreign influences abroad. We are in a very precarious place with countries like Iran. When they see a house divided, it becomes quite easy for them to make life harder for legal citizens as well as Trump.¹² These foreigners who encourage a lawsuit against Trump's tariffs found a safe place

¹¹ When you read this article, you will see that Dems want to bring millions of illegals back into the country when they regain the "power" they crave. By repeating a constant lie that wage increases cause inflation, their "solution" is by breaking the law to bring in more illegals. < <https://www.breitbart.com/immigration/2026/01/15/democrat-tom-suozzi-says-wage-gains-are-bad-for-affordability> >

¹² <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/ccp-connected-millionaire-allegedly-bankrolls-minneapolis-agitator-groups-through-dark-money-network>

inside our enemies within the country.¹³ Paid rioters called protesters and wealthy antagonists who pay them will do everything they can to destroy us. That's because it is a constant reminder that socialism doesn't work and freedom and liberty rings inside the human heart, making those who follow the truth of freedom and liberty successful.

Socialists and communists don't know how to fight a war about freedom and liberty. They only know how to steal and fight the wars that ensue from there. They must steal to get ahead because they can't create.¹⁴ The creative gene is workable in God's kingdom. Because they are governed by atheists desiring control, the creative gene misses the opportunities God gives. Democrats no longer know how to fight honorable wars. The shifts coming are not going to be easy. When you have to pay to create riots,¹⁵ you have lost the knowledge of freedom and liberty and how to maintain it. That knowledge of survival granted by the Almighty is the only thing keeping us ahead of our enemies.

Revival

As I was working on our own issues from October to February, I realized the main 'shift' that needs to take place is religious. The last book I wrote entitled "Suddenly: Prophetic Crossing Of The End-Time Revival Waters For The Last Days Ingathering," describes this revival. It describes the effects a wide-ranging regeneration of the Christian landscape can have. This is a real shift in the way the Christian church functions. One small outpouring of the Holy Spirit can lead to many outpourings across the nation. It is imperative that we seek Father for this. Most Christians don't even know what this looks like. My husband and I were blessed to live in revival for many years. From New York, where it started in a small way to Florida, where it was sustained in a more traditional fashion, we enjoyed the presence of the glory of God from roughly 1992-1998. Some would say that revival continued throughout 2004. I believe the argument could be made that it may have, but that's not the point of this article.

¹³ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/12/restricting-and-limiting-the-entry-of-foreign-nationals-to-protect-the-security-of-the-united-states>

¹⁴ An enlightening exchange between a Congressman from Florida and one of the state representatives who tried to expose the fraud in Minnesota: <https://youtu.be/0Lp9bhEBUOc>

¹⁵ See Footnote 12.

The reality is most Christians know nothing of what it is like to have the glory of God hover over their homes and lives. This is a real problem in the church today. The fraud and debauchery that has permeated our government also permeates the church— or is it the other way around? If ever an argument could be made that these United States started — and her laws were made based on the Bible — it is seen by the evidence of the fraud and debauchery in both the church and the government.

What a shift will do for Christianity is expose what the Lord wants exposed, and repentance made for that which He exposes. Believe it or not, this is not what concerns me. Each individual must go before Him and “have a little talk with Jesus” as the old hymn says. What concerns me is that Christians ignore the “talk with Jesus.” We called them ‘shovel Christians.’ It was based on the way churches are built with a pulpit, and pews in front of the pulpit. Leaders would preach revival throughout the hearts of the people. Shovel Christians are believers who sit and listen but take a proverbial shovel and throw words behind them to the people in back of them. It goes something like this: “Great sermon pastor. The church really needed that.”

I normally take what I hear to heart. In other words, how am I failing? Lord, what do I need to do to get in touch with what you’re saying? Shovel Christians have a habit of ignoring that step because the Lord is always preaching to someone else.

The Shift

So again I’ll ask the question: What is Shifting? I’m not entirely sure, but I have given us some thoughts as to what can shift. After you read the three-part articles written in 2003, maybe you will see the shifts ahead of time and be prepared when they take place. I have placed what was written in blue ink. I’ve also placed what I wrote in Part 3 now (2026) in red ink. I did the same thing I did in 2018 again— I forgot the vision the Lord gave me in 2002 or 2003. It turns out that vision is also applicable again, now, in 2026. You can read it in Part 3 of this word: “God, His Gauntlet, The Switch and Our Shift. You can also view these in the Archives Tab. Go to March, May and July of 2018.

January 2003

Part One

God, His Gauntlet, The Switch and Our Shift:

Quite some time ago I felt as if the Holy Spirit was letting me know He was going to shake things up in the world and in His church. He was going to test many people to see what was in their hearts. This process was not going to be easy for some. For many others it would take them to the next level in what God had for their lives. Not only would the people of the world experience testing, but anyone who named the name of Jesus was going to go through this test. Whether they realized it, acknowledged it, or frankly, passed the test or failed was not necessarily relevant. It was the journey in growth. For some the 'failing' or the 'passing' would take many months and even years to realize.

So when the Lord spoke again before 9/11/01 while I was at a local homeless mission, that He was about to test everyone there, but whatever the outcome was, I was going to the next level, I was not surprised. I was overjoyed that my time would be up at this ministry and that everything the Lord wanted accomplished for that time period had been done. I had developed friendships with many wonderful people. They were a wonderful ministry and group of people. At the same time, I had to realize that God's desire is to move us on in His plan and purpose. But I also became concerned. I became concerned that the little flock did not have the knowledge and skills to be tested. Some had gone through our foundations' course, while many others claimed to have a firm foundation, but I suspected a test by the Holy Spirit would reveal that they did not.

I approached the pastor of this mission with my concern. The pastor decided to go over the foundations material again and also to start teaching in areas in which the Holy Spirit revealed each minister should speak about. The pastor felt led to teach on certain subjects while I felt the need to encourage the intercessors to pray. I also felt led to teach concerning principles that the seven churches in the book of Revelation experienced and to also go through a teaching on cross-road words.

(There is a section on crossroad words in the book, "Beyond Strongholds: Infiltration by the Glory of God," available on this website.)

September 11, 2001, took place and Thanksgiving became Christmas. Tests kept coming and many months passed. Before Easter the Lord said some things to me and reminded me of a word He had given me on March 1, 2001. He began to show me characters throughout the Bible who were used by Him to challenge religious leadership. He began to develop in me the word that you are now reading. Eventually, I began to get the picture or understanding of God throwing down ‘the gauntlet’ in the devil’s face and that gauntlet became a switch. I began to understand that in the years to come God would use people to challenge our religious norms. As these folks did so in submission to the Holy Spirit, it would challenge principalities and powers, rulers (human, religious and satanic), which the enemy was using as an arsenal to sidetrack God’s purposes on earth.

This challenge— in submission to the Holy Spirit— would literally throw a switch that would change circumstances and events— even world events— that had been looking as if they were going the devil’s way. This ‘switch’ would shift events straight into God’s plan from before the foundation of the world. I thought to myself, “That’s a tall order. I’m glad I’m not one of those people!” My grandmother had a saying about the young in heart. Something about us being wise in our own eyes and not counting chickens before any were hatched. After enough time has passed, I have come to realize that if any of us claim to be His— I mean, truly His— we are all going to experience many tests and trials.

During these periods of time God may show us the good, the bad and the indifferent things that have come to reside in our hearts. For those of us able to walk with Him in these areas, He may use us to say to the devil and his crew, “TAKE THAT!” as God sweeps us along His plan for the ages. It is a tall order because we serve a God that is taller than all else in heaven, in earth and in anything that is under the earth.

There are many biblical examples of this situation. There are also some modern-day examples of this from our current events and from years gone by. Our best biblical example is our Lord Jesus Christ. When God desires to deliver a people, He does just the opposite of what the devil has done. He works redemption from back to forward (see Hebrews 13:8). In the book of Revelation, our magnificent Lord is always Him who *was* and *is* and *is to*

come (Revelation 4:8). Notice that He is from past, to, and through our present, and yet, already in our future. To work out salvation on the human side of the equation, He works from the problem out. Sin started with Lucifer, and out he went (Isaiah 14:12, 15; Ezekiel 28:17, 18). Judgment was then proclaimed over satan's future (Genesis 3:15; Ezekiel 28:19).

When sin was found in Adam and Eve and the curse passed to the creation, we can see this progression a bit easier. Blood atonement was made for the two of them and total redemption for their future was proclaimed over them (Genesis 3:21; 3:14-19, especially 3:15). Even though Adam was created first (1 Timothy 2:14), God still starts the solution by proclaiming judgment on the serpent first. God then progresses to Eve and finally to Adam. Because God is from beginning to end, He also settles the issue from first to last.

Throughout the Old Testament, 'Adam' or men were cleansed first in order to be priests, women were not (Leviticus 21). When Jesus came as the fulfillment of the blood sacrifice, women were finally set free to be kings and priests for God equally with men (Galatians 3:28). Once our Lord wraps this whole thing up, the creation will finally be set free. God will provide a new heaven and a new earth (Romans 8:19-21; Revelation 21:1). The awesome reality of God though, is not only does He work from the inside out because of the human equation; but because He is God, He also works from a realm which satisfies Him. While working from beginning to end, he has already taken care of our future (Revelation 21:6). Isn't that really what all the animal sacrifice was about in the Old Testament? It pointed mankind forward to recognize the cross and the One and Only Sacrificial Lamb, Jesus; while animal sacrifice provided a temporary solution which satisfied God's desire for fellowship with clean and spotless human vessels (Genesis 8:20-22; Hebrews 10:5-10).

So the Lord of the universe invites mankind into the equation of a solution by finding a prophetic type. He looks for people that are willing to work in ways and in situations which look impossible. This is done to deal with the devil's accusations (Job 1:6-11; 2:1-5), while at the same time obeying God in ways that go in direct opposition to what the devil or human reasoning can understand.

This desire to confront principalities, powers and rulers in submission to the Holy Spirit, literally changed the then known world. Think about it. During Christ's time nearly 70 percent of the population of planet Earth was in slavery. Women had little or no rights according to Roman law. They were afforded much greater legal rights according to Jewish law. Within 300 years women are treated far better within Christian circles; and slavery, while still in practice, started to lose its grip on mankind to the point today where it is outlawed by the United Nations.

As the centuries roll by and saints like the apostle Paul, Martin Luther and Joan of Arc are challenging religious systems that have lost touch with the Living God, revelation and understanding concerning the God of the Bible increased. Even a cursory study of world history reveals that wherever Christianity gained a foothold as the religion of a country, living conditions in that country increased. While not trying to instigate a fight with any other world religions, look at countries where true Christianity is not in their founding roots. What you see is abject poverty among a large portion of the population. From a human rationale this poverty may look as if it's due to climatic conditions or due to corruption by governing powers which hold that country in chains; but, even rich farming land can be turned into desolation when the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is not involved in that society. Where Christianity prevails, corruption is held in check. Look at Israel pre-1948. When the Jews returned to their land, it truly did flow again with milk and honey (Exodus 3:8; Isaiah 34:8-35:2).

Remember Elijah, Elisha and the other prophets? They always challenged the religious norms of their time. They always exposed where the rulers had lost touch with the revelation of God, His word and His ways (Psalm 103:7; Rev 1:1; John 1:1). Not every confrontation by a prophet was received with malice or an 'attitude.' King David genuinely repented at Nathan's word (2 Samuel 12:7-14). Josiah humbled himself when he found the 'book' (2 Kings 22). Even the heathen king Nebuchadnezzar received healing from his 'animal-like' syndrome when he looked up to heaven confessing that the Almighty is God and admitted there was an authority and a word which preceded Nebuchadnezzar's own authority and word (Daniel 4).

Three questions can be asked when you realize that the pattern I just described really is normal Christianity. Today in Christian circles we have

developed a mentality which basically says, “Don’t challenge the norm. Don’t upset the apple cart because it will be viewed as strife and rebellion.” Actually, this thought is not an unreasonable one. How do we know if we really are doing as God requires by challenging a religious system, or if we are really in strife and rebellion instead? This is the first question. It will give rise to a second question. How can we be sensitive enough to hear the Holy Spirit so we will know which is which? And the last question, Are there definite areas in which God will require change? In other words, are there any dynamics to let us know where we are at? Log on next month to this same site for the answers to these questions.

February 2003

Part Two

God, His Gauntlet, The Switch and Our Shift

Last month we reviewed the foundation for the circumstances we see played out as God uses a people group to accomplish His set of plans and circumstances. As we discussed some things about God last month, and looked at some of His previous ‘gauntlet’ people, three questions arose. In a nutshell, these questions ask whether or not it is possible for *Gauntlet* people to be in rebellion and strife. How can they be sensitive enough to the Holy Spirit to know if they are; and, are there any dynamics to let God’s people know when God is getting ready to do this?

I see God raising up a group of people that are willing to go through some ‘stuff’ in order to see Christ exalted. As a result, they challenge mediocre Christianity and the world as well. They can be labeled as weird or possibly even rebellious by

their Christian brothers and sisters. These saints are going to be willing to spend their 'all' for Jesus. Since this is not the 'norm' for a large group of those in western Christianity today, a transition will be evident as God requires many to lay down more and more of their possessions and positions in both the world and the 'church' world. Since this is a transition, for some it may be as simple as giving up some time in ways they never did before. For others, it may mean saying no to that important job offer because Jesus told them to come and follow Him. And for others, it may mean giving up their coveted positions in religion, while risking ridicule to do what our Lord has required them to do. For all of us, it will mean a daily desire to go to the cross in our lives.

This is why our first question concerning rebellion is so important. As I read the Scriptures and look at the lives of those who seem equipped with this call, I see five different trials Father God will take them through to test their faith, obedience and motives. These are five tests Jesus went through. They are five tests the early church experienced. What these five tests will produce is a people who come in total agreement with the Word of the Lord on the face of the earth. Jesus came in total agreement with God's word on earth. The disciples, Rome and the Jewish priests did not come in total agreement with God's word concerning Messiah. Because the disciples' heart was to believe, as well as some Romans (centurion), Jewish priests and leaders (Nicodemus), our Lord challenged them to believe and follow Him totally. As a result, they also became 'gauntlet' people

who challenged religious norms within their own spheres of influence.

There are definite life experiences God will take such people through to prepare them for this walk. The first is obvious; it is childhood education. If one is raised without discipline or is raised in an environment of abusive discipline, God will have to rearrange our upbringing to line up with His discipline. If they are raised without a hard work ethic (the word couch potato comes to mind), God will put them in years of a hard work environment to change them. People like Nicodemus and the disciples were well trained in the Scriptures and hard work at very early ages. So God may have to take some today through many, many years of Biblical training as well as hard labor. Much of this training will surround their character. These five tests or circumstances are experiences that expose any and all areas of rebellion.

While Jesus had no areas of rebellion to be exposed, He still walked through these tests: **One**, He allowed His feelings to be hurt (see Matthew 23:37, John 11:35). **Two**, He allowed Himself to be exposed no matter the consequences (see John 10:25-39). **Three**, even though He was right in His assessment of situations, He never flaunted it (see John 19:10, 11). If I were talking about a mere mortal I would explain this circumstance this way: Gauntlet people swallow their pride, even *if* they're right. **Number four**, He allowed Himself to be wronged and falsely accused (see Luke 22:37). **And last, but definitely not least**, He allowed Himself to be tested by Father

God in these as well as many other areas with no outward sign of approval from God that He passed the test and no approval from friends, family, religious or governmental leaders around Him (see Isaiah 53:3, 4).

Even if you have read the Gospels through once, I think you will agree that we see these same patterns over and over again. If we apply our present world troubles to these circumstances, we can see that if everyone allowed Jesus to take them through these five areas, there would be no wars and no rumors of wars. These areas are hard to be tested in. But after a while, it almost becomes easy. You might say, how do you know that you're in one of His tests? My answer: say something — go ahead, open your mouth. You'll know. I've learned that if I'm in one of His tests, the more I say will only make it worse.

When you're walking with God through one of these tests, you will learn how to love people, even when you know you don't want to love them. Jesus loved us while we were still His enemies (see Romans 5:8). Love is not a feeling. Love is a choice. I wish love were just a feeling, then this would be easy. Because *Gauntlet* people are going to be used by God to challenge some things, their motive can be nothing other than God's motives. In fact, I doubt very much that they know how much of an impact they have made until some time later (except in the case of Jesus). This is how one will know that they can be sensitive enough to hear the Holy Spirit in these situations: they still love.

In an attitude of love you can hear Jesus say anything He wants you to know. A mistake concerning these tests is to expect everyone to be on the same level. This simply is not fair. What God may require of me as a test is not the same experience He may require of someone else. A test for a young mother with children or a grandmother may be to open their home to people making a mess of it in, let's say for example, a Bible study. While a test for a young, single man may be to go off to war. These two tests couldn't be more different in their experiences, yet Jesus can be just as pleased with the grandmother as the young soldier. They all were tested in their obedience, faith and love and in the end bitterness and non-forgiveness never controlled their hearts. They loved the unlovely just like Jesus did.

Now that we have discussed our first two questions, we have one last question remaining. Are there any dynamics or patterns we see evidenced that will let us know God is "Taking off the gloves" and throwing down a gauntlet? There are four Scripture verses I felt led to read. They are: Deuteronomy 29:4; Psalm 115:7 and Psalm 135:16 & 17 read as one reference together; Isaiah 6:9, and finally, Matthew 13:15.

You might read these and say, they all say the same thing: People seem to be hearing, but not understanding, and they seem to be seeing, but not perceiving. Yes, they do all say that, but they aren't all the same. But that is the indicator that we see before God takes off those 'gloves.' Each portion of Scripture was written during a different time period in Israel's

history. In Deuteronomy we see the first part of the book with God recalling His people's past, while the next portion of the book envisions Israel's future life in this new land. From chapter 29 to 30, with the exception of some texts concerning the wilderness, God now places their possible future before them if they heed his warnings. The choice is theirs. They are a 'new' people, having had the brokenness of slavery stripped off of them. What will their choice be? Will they receive eyes to see and ears to hear? Or will they go back to their old ways and circumvent this new eyesight and spiritual hearing?

This is important; because, it is at just such a place in all new believers' lives when satan tries to persuade them to turn back from following Christ. It is at just such a place in a newness of Christian experience in a seasoned believer's life, that satan will tempt them to return to the old, nominal Christianity. You may have experienced a spiritual awakening of some kind from visiting a church, or just a newness of a walk in your prayer life, and some well meaning friend will come along and say, "It doesn't take all that to please Jesus. You don't have to wake up so early in the morning and fast all those days. You don't have to put yourself or your family out like that."

At that point, you are just developing new eyes to see Jesus with and new ears to hear Him. If you listen to these voices—mark my words— you will lose your new eyesight and hearing. I'm not saying repentance won't restore you. But that's part of satan's attack plan. When you fall back, you may not even have the spiritual eyesight or hearing to know you need to repent. In Israel's case, God, so to speak, 'threw

down' Joshua and Caleb (*gauntlet* people), as examples of proper leadership and proper 'hearing and seeing' responses to God and His Word. And so our Lord may send a preacher, a book, an article, our private Bible reading time or a different friend to challenge us right back to His path of proper eyesight and hearing.

Psalms 115 and 135 are interesting Psalms. Historically, they were probably written at different times. The bulk of scholars place Psalm 115 within the time period of the Second Temple building revival; and Psalm 135, as possibly being written much earlier by Hezekiah during that Temple revival. Whether that is true or not, one thing is certain: These were written by a people who are spiritually on fire for God.

Both these psalms are hymns used in Temple worship. In fact, after the Passover supper finished with the fourth cup, the second portion of the Hallel— Psalms 113-118 of which Psalms 115-118 were the second part— would have been sung. This is the reference Matthew makes when he says, "When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives" (Matthew 26:30). It is not always during times of backsliding when Satan comes to tempt a people, but when they are on the mountain top with God. When you are feeling your strongest in Christ and all is going well, you have to remind yourself how easy it is to serve an idol in your heart.

Maybe your idol is not a carving of Buddha or some other icon. Maybe your idol is comfort and a nice car. Maybe God has given you these. Maybe you belong to a church that is on

fire for God. Maybe you get caught up in working hard in that church but ever so subtly in your heart you judge another's work as not work enough or another's service as not as important as yours. It won't take long for other areas of judgment to creep in. Before you know it, your idols have become your own thoughts. God is never able to do anything that challenges you in front of anybody else. All the while, even in the midst of spiritual renewal, you can develop ears that won't hear and eyes which refuse to spiritually see.

This is how new moves of God become persecuted by the old move of God. This is how this spiritual pattern keeps playing out in history and in revival after revival. In fact, in my opinion, this is why I think God raises up a new movement, as a 'gauntlet' people to challenge the old movement. Thank God He does. It is His kindness showing the old movement that He alone is God. No work or program or new thing moves Him. He alone moves us (Acts 17:28). He alone does the work that turns the earth (Psalm 135:6).

Isaiah 6:9 would seem to portray the same example as the previous Psalms. But a closer look at who God was sending Isaiah to would change that understanding. This is Israel pre-exile. What encouraged that exile along is what Isaiah was sent to warn them about. They will refuse to listen, developing the same hardness of hearing their hymns have warned them about. This category of people are falling in line with God's promise to them from Deuteronomy 30. They are about to be a banished people. They have no idea that their sin will exile them because their ears are stopped up and they have

developed spiritual blindness. Isaiah and many of the subsequent prophets (see Jeremiah 5:21, Ezekiel 12:2, Zechariah 7:7-12) are ‘thrown down’ as *Gauntlet* people to warn their brethren of their complacency and blindness. Because they refuse to listen, this turns events toward exile. While in exile, they repent and believe. Their ears are opened and their eyes see. They now see the fulfillment of Deuteronomy 30:1-6, and they are restored.

I have seen folks who have had a relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit and then turn back. It is almost as if there are blinders on their eyes. They simply will not and cannot see that their course of action will take them farther away from God, not closer. I’ve seen it take days, weeks, months and years (on some, I’m still waiting) for them to want a relationship with the Holy Spirit again. Sometimes a jolt from reality, or even a time of severe hardship woke them up. It should not surprise us that saved and Holy Spirit-filled people should turn back from following their God. We can be thankful that Deuteronomy 30 was written. We should be thankful that the story of the prodigal son was told to us. Whatever our experience with backsliding, we can all be thankful we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Son (1 John 2:1). We can remember that Ecclesiastes 7:20 (see also 1 John 1:8-10), pertains to all those who claim Christ as their own— and we can thank God for 1 John 1:9.

The last Scripture, Matthew 13:15, is written to a twice-pardoned people who are on their way to ruin. As a group they’re putting up a good front. But deep inside they know

that they're lost. This is why, for the most part, the common man followed Christ as Messiah and why, for the most part, their religious leadership did not believe He was who He said He was. Jesus was a 'gauntlet' person used by God to challenge their natural laws (see Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:25, Mark 10:51,52), their theology (see John 10:30), as well as their understanding of Roman rule and Messiah (see John 7:32-52).

He is sent not only as Isaiah was sent to jolt them back to God's reality, but to change every aspect of how they functioned and perceived themselves in relationship to 'their' world. This is why there is a constant command to have ears that hear all throughout the gospels (see Mark 4:23, 7:12; Luke 8:8, 14:35). It is also why there was the same constant command made by the apostles throughout the rest of the early church's history (see Acts 28:26,27; Romans 11:8). And, it is why Jesus makes the final command in the book of Revelation for him who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches (see Revelation 3:22).

It seems the condition of having ears which don't hear and eyes that don't see is not just relegated to the Old Testament. It is a condition prevalent in our society today, both in religious circles and secular ones. Any time we have been forgiven and set free, we can stand at the door of this condition. As Christians we cannot deny it as a possibility. As Christians if we say God cannot perform a miracle, He will mess with our understanding of 'natural' law.

If we say God cannot be in such and such a situation, He will mess with our theology. If we say He must come back a certain way— watch it— He just may come back the way which suits Him, yet still fulfills all Scripture. If He tries to show us our error and change our hearts, but we refuse— watch it. We have just crossed the doorway of this condition. And unless God continues to jolt us, we will have spiritually deaf ears and spiritually blinded eyes. These are four historical patterns which let us know God is getting ready to ‘take off the gloves’ and send our world changing. As we look around us we can see how close we are to this happening. Log on next month for more . . .

God, His Gauntlet, The Switch and Our Shift
Part Three
(First Published 2003)

Over the last two months we have been talking about God raising up a group of common, ordinary people who are willing to go through tremendous hardships in order to see Christ exalted. We talked about God preparing these people to be thrown down as a gauntlet to say, “Take That, devil!” And as God does so, a switch is turned in the spiritual realm that shifts events into God’s plan for eternity. We looked at how they challenge the religious as well as the secular world around them. We looked at the tests they must go through in order to remove any and all areas of rebellion, control or manipulation in their lives—

which reveals those same areas in those they are called to. Finally, we looked at the historical climate that this situation can take place in.

In this final installment I would like to look at the “switch.” I explain the switch as a situation or series of events that requires actions which go totally beyond human reasoning. Some would say that takes faith. What I am talking about takes no ordinary faith, but a consuming and passionate belief that says, “God said so. I know you say He couldn’t. I know you say it violates His Word, but you don’t see or hear His Word any longer the way He intends for it to be seen and heard.” (See last month’s article.) Jesus did the exact same thing when He came the first time. After that, these ‘gauntlet’ folks are used by God to show those around them what God sees and God hears.

Before I go into specific biblical situations, Isaiah 58 comes to mind. Isaiah is not talking to the heathen, but God’s people. He says, “Declare to my people their rebellion . . . For day after day they seek me out; they seem eager to know my ways, as if they were a nation that does what is right and has not forsaken the commands of its God. They ask me for just decisions and seem eager for me to come near them. ‘Why have we fasted,’ they say, ‘and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves and you have not noticed’ (Isaiah 58:1-3)?”

I’m always amazed at how God views us. Isaiah says these folks were actually asking for God. They were crying out to Him and fasting before Him. But they still were not ready to loose those they had oppressed and restore those they had broken (see the rest of Isaiah 58). So God sent a ‘switch’ that shifted the people Isaiah was speaking to right out of their own country. It brings to my remembrance all the religions of the world that fast and cry out to the one they understand as God, including Christianity, but they can be blind to seeing what God really requires. Let’s look at this ‘switch’ situation from the Bible.

There are so many stories that exemplify this situation in the Scriptures. When Joshua and Caleb are sent with the spies to view this new land God is giving Israel, the other spies made the people afraid (see

Numbers 13 & 14). Caleb stands up immediately in front of Moses and the people and encourages them to take possession. The Bible says that the other spies sent a bad report among the camp. This gets two plus million people all stirred up in discouragement. It gets so bad that Moses and Aaron fall face down before the Lord. At this point Joshua and Caleb do an interesting thing. They stand up as a riot is beginning to foment and they tell the people to believe and trust in God to do this thing. They encourage them in the ability of God. So God throws down Joshua and Caleb as examples. They could have entered into substitution instead—they could have come in agreement with the other spies to avoid being stoned to death (Numbers 14:10). Their agreement with God in the face of severe adversity pulls a switch which shifts a nation.

Years later, Israel is in a situation that causes God's army to come face to face with their enemies. David's brothers happen to be in that army. Little David is sent by his father to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield. This work gets him accused of self-promotion by them (1 Samuel 17:28). This is because the situation looked so impossible to the family of David—how could God use *him* to actually mess with a giant? David challenges their understanding of who he is, by ignoring them, and by talking to others in the camp (1 Samuel 17:30-32). He eventually talks to Saul. That's when he is up against another problem—substitution.

At the top of this article you saw two separate drawings. (In this republication, you clicked on the photos to get to this article. See my explanation in the previous paragraphs.) The first one you have been seeing over the last two months is titled, "God, His Gauntlet, the Switch, Our Shift." The second one we put up is titled "Substitution." They both look good, but if you view them closely, you can see the gauntlet on "Substitution" has some different looking armor. It also creates a shadow on the land, but it does turn a switch. The substitution in David's story is Saul's armor. David had his own weapons that were not of this world. Let's face it, five small stones are not going to cut it against a giant—unless God shoots those stones (1 Samuel 17:37, 40-51). If David had taken Saul's armor (1 Samuel 17:38, 39), he would have bowed to a

religious and secular understanding of the situation, not how God Almighty viewed this situation. We all know the outcome. When David obeys God, the enemy is defeated and the nation starts its journey toward walking in God's heart by introducing a man who would follow God's heart (1 Samuel 13:14).

This did not produce total change immediately. It would take approximately 21 years of running, hiding and hardship for David to learn how to be a better king than Saul. God saw all the damage that Saul's regime had caused. God did not want David to become the same tyrant. David would need to understand the pain and anguish of running from such a king. He would need to see it from God's perspective. It reminds me of some ministry situations we see in different organizations and many churches. I watch people learn the system and then go on up the line in these endeavors to be blessed. But unfortunately, God is not always doing the blessing.

In David's case he was primed as the son-in-law of the king. In this closed environment he would never have understood the pain in God's heart (1 Samuel 15:10, 11) that these systems can cause. So God allows an evil spirit to descend on Saul (1 Samuel 16:14). Eventually, it causes Saul to think evil of David. One minute Saul likes him, the next minute Saul wants David dead. This sends David out into God's learning field so that David functions in God's ways, not Saul's and his system's ways. Since David was a younger man and the price was the kingship, this took a longer time. The eventual shift turns the nation toward God, not away from Him. It also makes Israel one of the most prosperous nations of its time.

Once Samuel is gone as the judge and prophet over Israel, Saul was to take the lead and institute both priests and prophets according to God's design (Exodus 19:6; Deuteronomy 18:15, 18). God sees in Saul's heart that he has no intention of instituting any system possibly challenging his kingship. But David's heart would be different. Not only would he allow the priests to function, he would create an environment that would cause them to prosper. And as for the prophets, he would not only do the

same for them, but at their word he would institute such a system— and allow them oversight in setting up God’s system (Chronicles 29:25).

Our next biblical example is Esther. If you are not familiar with the story, please turn to the book of Esther and start reading. Most folks would think that the ‘switch’ is when she goes to King Xerxes unannounced, which could cause her death. Esther is a woman that I love to read about. For me the real switch is when she willingly goes into a system that is a stench in the nostrils of her upbringing and her God.

Some would think for a young woman to be picked for the king’s harem would be an honor and would also come without a choice. The Jews were granted their freedom under Cyrus. Babylonian law gave freed slaves rights. While the king’s decree was final, had she made known her Jewish heritage, she may not have been chosen for the harem. Once Esther entered into the harem that was ‘IT’! Her life as a Jew with the possibility of marrying freely was over. She gambled greatly. For one night with the king she prepares for one year (Esther 2:12). If the king was not pleased or did not choose her as queen, she went into the harem as one of many, never being seen by the king again— or practically anyone else. This is for life. There was no leaving the harem or finding marriage elsewhere.

If I were living during Esther’s time, I might have been one of those sweet saints who would have told her she was crazy and going against all that was ‘God’ and all that God had commanded her people to do. All along the way, she could have substituted human reasoning and what we would call *accepted practice* and common sense. But she never does, not even in beauty treatments or dress (Esther 2:15). She relies on a wisdom that is certainly beyond her years and could have only come from God above. Not only does she challenge her religious upbringing, but after she becomes queen and her uncle Mordecai exposes Haman’s plot to her, she challenges the law of her land and risks the possibility of death, in addition to challenging her husband’s good nature (see Esther 4:11).

When she allows God to use her to throw a switch, her people are shifted from certain death to life.

There are so many other biblical characters that we could talk about. But the last one must be Jesus. Some may not appreciate this characterization, but Jesus entered into a system just like Esther did— a system that had become a stench in the nostrils of God Almighty— all in order to deliver His people. The Bible tells us that Jesus became sin for us so that we might be the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21).

The disciples are rationally minded men. They see their duty to protect their asset in Jesus as long as it takes. When Jesus tells the disciples He must go to the cross (Matthew 16:21-24), Peter protests. Jesus recognizes satan in the words of Peter and rebukes any and all kingdoms that would violate what God is intending to do by sending the Christ to the cross. Human reasoning, at that time, could not possibly understand this. Jesus does not take the substitution of the devil (see Luke 4:1-14). He does not take the easy road. He allows His Father in heaven to make Him a ‘switch’ that can shift every life to be able to call upon His name for all eternity (see Philippians 2:8-11). When we as human beings decide to switch our allegiance from our own way of running our lives to Christ’s way of running our lives, we are shifted right into God’s plan forever.

A question could be asked, why does God do this? While I don’t pretend to know all the reasons why God does a certain thing, three possibilities come to mind as I have experienced this situation. One is obvious, and it’s to shift us back to God’s plan instead of our own plans. The next one is to shift His leadership or to change leadership. Both these are evidenced by the lives of the biblical characters we have talked about. But the last reason may be better evidenced by the life of Daniel, Isaiah or Jeremiah.

Instead of looking at their lives individually, I felt as if the Lord gave me a Scripture verse that models this. “When the enemy comes in like a

flood, the Spirit of the Lord will raise up a standard against him.” Let me share a possible transliteration from the Hebrew of this verse in Isaiah 59:19 (see page 256 from “Beyond Strongholds”):

“For [because] Tyre [a distressing enemy] enters by [within] a flood, the Spirit [wind-breath] ‘driven’ — [behold], even Yahweh with a beacon [flag fluttering] shall raise up a Standard Bearer.”

In this portion of exact word for word understanding of Isaiah, it seems that the flood might not always come from the enemy. Sometimes it might, as in Revelation 12:15. In other cases it might not. It might be natural or it might even be Godly, but in any case the enemy is hiding within it. At that point the Spirit of the Lord— even Yahweh— has a beacon which raises up a *Standard Bearer*.

Our only *Standard Bearer* is Jesus Christ— King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The Old Testament city of Tyre eventually became part of the old Babylonian empire (it was always a part of Sumeria and Akkadea). Throughout Israel’s history it was always a distressing enemy, hence its name became known as ‘enemy’. This is the literal word used in this portion of Isaiah for enemy, *tyre*. But every time I looked at this in the Hebrew, it always seemed to me that the beacon or flag was different from the *Standard Bearer*. I was amazed as I started to think about this for our time and season, especially in light of the vision the Lord had given me on February 5th.

To explain, I wrote this note in 2018 from a vision I received in 2002 or 2003. When I re-read it in 2026, I’m amazed at the accuracy of this word. Here it is: This vision was explained on a different link. It was received in 2002 or 2003, I can’t remember now and involved the Iraq war. I will say, after reading what I had totally forgotten, I am amazed at God and His timing now. I have not placed the entirety of where I received it or other aspects of it here because some of it is not applicable, but the concept is. In 2001 we had an attack on our nation. By staying longer in Iraq than we should have, I had a vision of demonic hordes coming back with our troops, causing infirmities and other

ailments. These hordes also tried to overrun other countries and would try to do the same to America. I also received a word of encouragement from Isaiah 54 that God was giving America another chance. That chance is now and that timing is now (2018). Yet, I will say, we must pray. It's not necessarily a "done deal," to use a modern term. I thought I had nothing further to add here, but after re-reading that vision from 2002 or 2003, I have to say that the enemy is trying to hide, again, on events and circumstances in order to bring chaos to the world. He has gained ground in the last 15 years, but he has also lost ground. We must continue to pray so he continues to lose ground. I will write something here that is not popular in some Christian circles. But by taking in illegal immigrants, we are removing the impetus for change and deliverance that whole countries around the world could see had their people not left for America or Europe. This is not good. Here is God's pattern: Create an example (Israel and America) of Godly covenant and government. Allow the peoples of the world to see it and bring it back to their own countries. In this way, the Gospel expands, along with prosperity for all. By abandoning their own countries and taking the easier way out, these immigrants are leaving their own countries to the forces of evil, so that evil gains a beachhead. This is basically what my vision showed. It used a map of nations in the Middle East with black blob-like birds, literally thousands of them, moving like a flock of birds trying to escape a predator or a school of fish doing the same. But this horde was evil and where it went it made a mess, causing violence and devastation in its wake. I marveled as I read it fifteen years later. Continue to pray and continue to ask for the Holy Spirit to open your own eyes to His way of doing things, as opposed to our human ways.

Again, I'm writing in different-colored ink to highlight the timing of this writing in 2026. I received that vision in 2002 or 2003. It was quite distressing for me when I received it. As I said before, you can go to the Archive and read the reprinting in 2018.

What I felt the Holy Spirit say to me recently truly amazed me. If the devil is hiding in a situation, you would like a flag waving over his head saying, "He's right here!" Preferably, with an arrow pointing down on

his head! Well, sometimes that's exactly what *gauntlet* people are. They have an eyesight that can tell the difference between the waters that sometimes get mixed (clean and unclean) as the devil spews forth. Instead of backing off, they jump right into these 'shark infested' waters and hold up the flag of the Holy Spirit. Since Jesus is living on the inside of them through the precious Holy Spirit, they invite Him into the situation—and He is raised up—Jesus is exalted.

Because they have already gone to the cross in their lives—and with each test God takes them through—when God does use them in this way, there is no crying and complaining about the water. They learn how to allow God's word to keep them from being devoured by shark attacks while swimming. While in the water, they expose where the devil is hiding so the rest of the body of Christ can pray and see his attacks nullified by God. These saints delineate the 'devil water' from 'holy water' and lift Jesus up to show the world. That's how God uses them to switch and shift nations and events.

Of course, the devil wants to get them out of the water because they are wreaking havoc on his schemes. As they swim with devils, the enemy tries to swallow them up (see Revelation 12:15). But these saints have learned valuable lessons and the devils learn they cannot kill them (they're crucified with Christ already, Galatians 2:20). Because they're dead in Christ, the devil has no real power to do this. He needs the church and other humans on earth to help him. So he will persuade people to substitute some portion of how God wants to bring deliverance. Or substitute the Word of God for 'another gospel' (see Galatians 1:6-10). In my experience this is what causes so much trouble in the world.

Let me share some examples of this. When people get involved in cults and false religion, God will always raise up someone to go to these people to open their eyes to see and hear the true word of God, the Bible. In some dangerous situations these saints have been martyred. In other cases, they have escaped danger and have been set free while leading others to Christ. Another example of this goes on in Christian churches

today, but from a different vantage point. We talked about this briefly in last month's article.

When God is getting ready to send a new wave of Himself in glory, our understanding and practices usually have to go up to new levels of repentance, grace, wisdom and revelation in Christ. Sometimes this change can look like the devil (Matthew 12:24). That's because God is doing something new in the Spirit and the devil can see some area of radical change is coming (he can never forget the pronouncement of judgment over him by God in Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 14:12-20). So he tries to get people to think that the new is bad and cannot be of God, and these 'gauntlet' people must be from the devil. But these people are sent by God as a flag or beacon so everyone can see the Standard Bearer, Christ. Unfortunately, in many historical revivals the old always persecutes the new because the old misses the beacons or markers God places. They have lost their spiritual eyesight and hearing. (See the May 2018.pdf article in the archive.)

We are facing some interesting challenges in the world today. Since Christ has been offered up, war is never God's total and desired plan. Bringing souls to the cross of Christ is always the way to avert war. War is always a substitution because mankind will not bow at the cross of Christ and do what is right. As a result, some wars become unavoidable. But it is always God's desire to bring peace, health and healing when His people pray (2 Chronicles 7:13, 14). It will take special eyesight and hearing to pray in advance of the enemy's tactics in the days and weeks ahead so that we avert war or avert infiltration by enemy forces.

I pray all of you that have read these articles will be able to recognize the gauntlet people in your midst. I pray that you don't follow down the road of substitution by voices distracting the body of Christ from doing her job. There is still a great ingathering of souls, not just to pray in, but to go out to the fields to bring in. If we do not pray and go, God will use whatever means necessary to bring them in. As Mordecai said to Esther, "And who knows that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" My prayer is that these articles will help to bring God's word to

life in the days and situations that may arise in the future. As we see some of these things played out in the world and even in our churches, we can find rest and security in God's Word, knowing that nothing takes Him by surprise (Revelation 21:6, 7).