

YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

9292021

Sister Shelbia opened our session with prayer.

Our Father God,

Again we are here excited about your word and what you are doing. Father, I cannot thank you enough for your care and provision of this time; I do ask that you would forgive my every sin and keep me pure before you. I am poor and needy and depend on you, God. Please come through with this meeting because you are faithful. Your compassions fail not. They are new every morning. Please take charge of this meeting and let Dr. Jeffress's word be anointed. May this time be for your name, honor and glory. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Robert Jeffress, Pastor

YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT!

Have you heard that before? Maybe you've even used it with your own kids to try and encourage them to make better nutritional choices.

'You're gonna turn into a pizza if you just keep eating pizza all the time'. Which begs the question, mom and dad, would you rather me turn into a stalk of broccoli? Is that better? **You are what you eat.**

We understand what that means. What you consume affects you physiologically.

That's also true in the spiritual realm.

You become spiritually what you consume.

What you watch and listen to flows into your life and it really does determine what kind of person you are. By the way, advertisers understand the power of images and thoughts to change our behavior.

The former CEO of Harley Davidson Motorcycles said, we don't sell motorcycles. What we sell is the ability for a 43 year old accountant to drive thru a small town dressed in black leather so people will be afraid of him. Its an image. Something he sees changes his behavior and makes him want to buy a motorcycle.

Christian philosopher, Peter Craft once wrote the worlds oldest profession is advertising. It was invented by the devil in Eden. See this apple, eat it and you will be like God.

God is so concerned about what comes into our life and affects our life that he gave Paul this direction. He told him to write in-

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

How do you renew your mind and therefore transform your life?

We're gonna find a very spiritual way to renew your life and change your spiritual diet and therefore, change your life in a very strange passage of scripture we are going to look at today.

Revelation 10:1-11

1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

2 And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth,

3 And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

4 And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

5 And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven,

6 And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:

7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

8 And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.

9 And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.

10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.

11 And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

We are talking about the final 7 years of earth's history. **The tribulation.**

God will pour out his judgment on the earth and will climax when Jesus returns back to earth.

The reason for these judgments is not only to punish unbelievers but to give people a chance to repent and turn to faith in Christ. Its a sign of God's mercy to give people a chance to turn to Christ.

There is a series of 3 judgments, with 7 judgments in each one:

Seal judgments - Chapter 6

Trumpet judgments - Chapter 8-9

Bowl judgments - Chapter 16

Perhaps you've picked up on this pattern recently. After each series of judgments there is a pause before the next one begins.

After seal judgments, before final seal is broken and trumpet judgment begins, there's a pause.

And then we saw the same thing in the Trumpet judgments. After the 6th trumpet in chapter 9 that brought about the demonic locusts and army, there is a pause.

The pause extends all the way to chapter 16. Why are pauses included in scripture?

I think God knew we needed a little rest from these judgments.

Last week, I heard people say I can't take much more of this.

Before the final judgment in chapter 16, John's going to give us a long interlude. He's going to talk about other things in this interlude.

Today, we're gonna talk about a strong angel's appearance.

Revelation 10: 1

1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

What's the identity of this strong angel? Some say it must be Jesus Christ. NO, it wasn't Jesus.

Sometimes He is called the angel of the Lord but he's not an angel. He wasn't a created being.

Another means 'another of the same kind'.

In other words, John saw another angel coming down from heaven and he was clothed with a cloud.

That's a reference to his celestial origin.

And the rainbow was upon his head. (Remember the rainbow is a sign of both God's judgment and mercy.)

And his face was like the sun and his feet like pillars of fire.

But the most interesting thing about this angel is the action he takes. **'And he had in his hand a little book which was opened'.**

I've read theory after theory about what this little book was that the mighty angel had. I think the best answer is that it's the same book we looked at earlier. **The book of redemption.** Remember this book that had the terms by which this world was lost to Satan and the terms of redemption. The 7 sealed book.

By the time we get to the 7th seal, the book is completely open and that's what this book was described as being. The 7th sealed book which was open. In what sense was this book a little book?

Compared to the mighty angel, this was a small book. Look at how large this angel was - he placed his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land. That's one big angel! One foot on the land and one foot on the sea.

This isn't just a reference to his size, but it's a reference to his authority.

In the Bible when you read about the land and the sea, that's a description of the totality of God's creation.

This angel is claiming this world for God. Its a sign of ownership. He's saying this world is under the domain of God himself.

Now it won't seem this way at this point in the tribulation. Remember, we've got a whole other series of judgments to come.

The worse bowl judgments - many people on the earth will think the world is out of control. **But its not out of control, it is under God's control.**

Abraham Cooper, the dutch theologian, said **"There is not one thing from within the entire domain of human life in which the sovereign Christ does not proclaim it is mine."**

Think about it. There is not one square inch that is not under the control of God. And that is how it is with your life too. Your life may seem out of control, but it is under the control of God. It doesn't matter if it seems to be a random cancer cell, or an unfair employer, or a mate that wants to leave, or a financial need, or a child's that's wandered away from God. You may think these are random circumstances but no, every part of your life is under the control and power of almighty God!

That's what this angel is representing. This whole world is under the power of God.

After he takes his claim upon the earth, notice what John is forbidden to do.

Rev 10:3

3 And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. Can you imagine the roar the lion will let out? When a lion roars, its a sign of conquest. A sign of victory. That's what the roar of the lion is.

Rev 10:4

4 And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

Apparently when the 7 peals of thunder sounded, John could hear a human voice in that thunder. There was more information about the tribulation that was given to John and he was about to write it down. This same voice said what you just heard, don't write down. Don't share this revelation with anyone.

There are some things, some truths of God which are not to be shared. They are still a mystery.

We shouldn't be surprised by this.

Remember in the book of Daniel, the prophet was told several times to seal up the things that are in the book. Daniel was told to conceal these words and to seal up truths that would not be revealed until the end of time.

Daniel 12:4

4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

Daniel 12:9

9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

Why does God do that?

Why doesn't God tell us everything we might want to know?

Perhaps its because we can't comprehend everything of God.

Isaiah 55:8-9

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Deuteronomy 29:29

29 The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

But God has revealed to us everything we need to know but there's some things we can't know. Especially about the end times.

Its interesting, I've heard it said before that the whole idea of Bible prophecy and the end times is something that's just been talked about for the last hundred years. Some of you people have come up with this during the last 100 years. That's not true.

You can go back to the origin and people have talked about the millennium, the rapture and other things early on. Even if this were true, it doesn't negate the church history. It seems like the early church only dealt with one topic at a time:

The early church fathers dealt with **Christiology**, who Jesus was. Was he fully man? Fully God? A combination of man and God?

Then they went to the area of **numerology** – the study of the Holy Spirit

From there, they went to **Bibliology** -the study of what scripture really was.

Then to **Soteriology** – in the 1500s and 1600s, is it salvation by grace or salvation by works?

They had to get these things settled.

It should be no surprise that in the last days people would start talking about the last days.

These things were sealed up until the last days.

John's was forbidden to write down the things he heard in the peals of thunder.

Revelation 10:5

5 And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven,

What did he SWARE? That there should be delay no longer.

In the days of the voice of the 7th angel, that he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished as he preached to his servants the prophets.

This angel raised his hand to heaven and swore there would be delay no longer. What does that mean?

Delay is the Greek work KRONOS, which is the study of time. Some speculate that the angel is saying there is no more time. We know its really just a concept. We are trapped in time and one day we will be in a world in which there is no time. Right now we measure our existence in time. Could we be out of time? That doesn't make sense.

The tribulation is still to come. In fact we will see next week that God measures time by the days that are left in the tribulation - 1250 days, 42 months, 3.5 years. Time is still measured so this is not the right definition. There will be no delay any longer. What does that mean?

Christs second coming will no longer be delayed.

You see from our perspective Christs second coming has been delayed.

The first century Christians thought he would come back in their lifetime. People believe there has been a delay in his coming. Even in Jesus's parables he indicated that the master was gone longer than his servants expected him to be gone. **But don't confuse God's delay with a revelation of his promise.**

II Peter 3

1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire

against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

It says in the last days, mockers will come with their mocking saying where is the promise of his coming? Ever since the days of our father the earth has remained as it is. People have thought that Jesus hasn't come back, and he's not coming back. I hear that all the time.

You Christians are just living in a dream world thinking about a literal Christ coming back.

Just because he's delayed doesn't mean he's not coming.

In fact, God has written in indelible ink on his calendar the year, day, month and hour when he will come back. **The only reason he hasn't come back is to give you an opportunity to repent before its too late.**

II Peter 3:9

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

One day there will be a time when there is no longer a delay and there will be no more time for repentance; and the angel says not only will there no longer a delay but the mystery will be finished.

Rev 10:7

7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

In the Bible a mystery is a truth of God that's been hidden until a certain time.

Ephesians 1:9-10

9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

Paul talks about the mystery of God.

In the summing up of all things in Christ, things in heaven and earth, there will come a time when all things come to an end and people will understand the mystery.

What is the mystery?

One you've probably been asked about before. If there really a God, why is there evil in the world?

If God is really who he said he is, why does he allow children to be abused, to starve to death, why does he allow the same heartache to happen in believers that happens in unbelievers?

Why does he allow those who preach the truth to be persecuted?

Like that Nigerian pastor this week who was beheaded because he refused to deny Jesus Christ as a savior.

If God is really who he says he is, why does evil have reign over this earth?

That is a mystery. A mystery that will be finished when the Lord Jesus returns. And that is what the angel is talking about here.

Rev 10:8

8 And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.

We see something very strange.

John who up to this point has been an observer of the revelation, become a participant in this.

The word **take** - **God tells John to take the book out of the angels hand.**

John is a little reluctant to do that so he went to the angel and told him to give me the book and **the angel said, no, you take it; and eat it and it will make your stomach bitter but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey.**

So I TOOK the little book and ate it and in my mouth it was as sweet as honey but when I had eaten it my stomach was bitter.

And then they said to me, you must prophecy to many people and many nations and tongues and kings.

John had to take the book.

The angel didn't give it to him.

God doesn't cram his message down our throats, we have to take it - and we have to willingly eat it.

Now don't get hung up on whether John literally ate this entire book.

Remember Ezekiel was commanded to eat the scroll of God. Whether or not he literally ate it is irrelevant.

It was as picture of assimilating God's word into his whole life.

Remember, you are what you eat.

MAKE GODS WORD A PART OF YOUR LIFE!

And so God did that. He assimilated (digested) that little book into his life before he could go out and prophecy to the nation.

When he ate the word of God, either literally or figuratively, it was bitter in taste but then it became sweet as honey.

We read this in:

Psalm 119, the longest chapter in the Bible. It talks about the power of God's word.

1 Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.

2 Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

3 They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.

4 Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

5 O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!

6 Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.

7 I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.

8 I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.

9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

12 Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.

13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.

14 *I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.*
15 *I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.*
16 *I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.*
17 *Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live, and keep thy word.*
18 *Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.*
19 *I am a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me.*
20 *My soul breaketh for the longing that it hath unto thy judgments at all times.*
21 *Thou hast rebuked the proud that are cursed, which do err from thy commandments.*
22 *Remove from me reproach and contempt; for I have kept thy testimonies.*
23 *Princes also did sit and speak against me: but thy servant did meditate in thy statutes.*
24 *Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.*
25 *My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.*
26 *I have declared my ways, and thou heardest me: teach me thy statutes.*
27 *Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works.*
28 *My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.*
29 *Remove from me the way of lying: and grant me thy law graciously.*
30 *I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid before me.*
31 *I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame.*
32 *I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.*
33 *Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end.*
34 *Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.*
35 *Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight.*
36 *Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.*
37 *Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.*
38 *Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy fear.*
39 *Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments are good.*
40 *Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.*
41 *Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, even thy salvation, according to thy word.*
42 *So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word.*
43 *And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments.*
44 *So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever.*
45 *And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.*
46 *I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed.*
47 *And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.*
48 *My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.*
49 *Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope.*
50 *This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.*
51 *The proud have had me greatly in derision: yet have I not declined from thy law.*
52 *I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself.*
53 *Horror hath taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake thy law.*
54 *Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.*
55 *I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law.*
56 *This I had, because I kept thy precepts.*
57 *Thou art my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would keep thy words.*
58 *I intreated thy favour with my whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word.*
59 *I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.*
60 *I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments.*
61 *The bands of the wicked have robbed me: but I have not forgotten thy law.*
62 *At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments.*
63 *I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.*

64 *The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes.*
65 *Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word.*
66 *Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments.*
67 *Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.*
68 *Thou art good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes.*
69 *The proud have forged a lie against me: but I will keep thy precepts with my whole heart.*
70 *Their heart is as fat as grease; but I delight in thy law.*
71 *It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.*
72 *The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.*
73 *Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.*
74 *They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word.*
75 *I know, O LORD, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me.*
76 *Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant.*
77 *Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law is my delight.*
78 *Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: but I will meditate in thy precepts.*
79 *Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies.*
80 *Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.*
81 *My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in thy word.*
82 *Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me?*
83 *For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; yet do I not forget thy statutes.*
84 *How many are the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?*
85 *The proud have digged pits for me, which are not after thy law.*
86 *All thy commandments are faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me.*
87 *They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts.*
88 *Quicken me after thy lovingkindness; so shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth.*
89 *For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.*
90 *Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.*
91 *They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all are thy servants.*
92 *Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.*
93 *I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.*
94 *I am thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts.*
95 *The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: but I will consider thy testimonies.*
96 *I have seen an end of all perfection: but thy commandment is exceeding broad.*
97 *O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.*
98 *Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.*
99 *I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.*
100 *I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.*
101 *I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.*
102 *I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.*
103 *How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*
104 *Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.*
105 *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*
106 *I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.*
107 *I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word.*
108 *Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments.*
109 *My soul is continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law.*
110 *The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts.*
111 *Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart.*
112 *I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes alway, even unto the end.*
113 *I hate vain thoughts: but thy law do I love.*

114 *Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.*
115 *Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God.*
116 *Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.*
117 *Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually.*
118 *Thou hast trodden down all them that err from thy statutes: for their deceit is falsehood.*
119 *Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth like dross: therefore I love thy testimonies.*
120 *My flesh trembleth for fear of thee; and I am afraid of thy judgments.*
121 *I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors.*
122 *Be surety for thy servant for good: let not the proud oppress me.*
123 *Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness.*
124 *Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes.*
125 *I am thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies.*
126 *It is time for thee, LORD, to work: for they have made void thy law.*
127 *Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.*
128 *Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.*
129 *Thy testimonies are wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them.*
130 *The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.*
131 *I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments.*
132 *Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name.*
133 *Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.*
134 *Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts.*
135 *Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.*
136 *Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.*
137 *Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments.*
138 *Thy testimonies that thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful.*
139 *My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.*
140 *Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.*
141 *I am small and despised: yet do not I forget thy precepts.*
142 *Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.*
143 *Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: yet thy commandments are my delights.*
144 *The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.*
145 *I cried with my whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes.*
146 *I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies.*
147 *I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word.*
148 *Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might meditate in thy word.*
149 *Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness: O LORD, quicken me according to thy judgment.*
150 *They draw nigh that follow after mischief: they are far from thy law.*
151 *Thou art near, O LORD; and all thy commandments are truth.*
152 *Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.*
153 *Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law.*
154 *Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word.*
155 *Salvation is far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes.*
156 *Great are thy tender mercies, O LORD: quicken me according to thy judgments.*
157 *Many are my persecutors and mine enemies; yet do I not decline from thy testimonies.*
158 *I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word.*
159 *Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness.*
160 *Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.*
161 *Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word.*
162 *I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil.*
163 *I hate and abhor lying: but thy law do I love.*

164 *Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments.*
165 *Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.*
166 *LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments.*
167 *My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly.*
168 *I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways are before thee.*
169 *Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word.*
170 *Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word.*
171 *My lips shall utter praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes.*
172 *My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness.*
173 *Let thine hand help me; for I have chosen thy precepts.*
174 *I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law is my delight.*
175 *Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me.*
176 *I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments.*

Remember verse 1, your word is as sweet as honey in my mouth.

In what sense is God's word bitter as well as sweet?

I was turning that over and over in my mind and it didn't come to me till yesterday afternoon.

It finally became clear to me what God was saying to John.

In what sense is God's word both bitter and sweet?

*Depends on the Audience - to **unbelievers**, this message of revelation is bitter. Jesus Christ is coming back to judge the unrighteousness. This is not good news if you're not a Christian. It is bitter to unbelievers.*

*To **believers**, this is good news. Jesus is coming back to reward the righteous, so in that aspect according to its audience it is bitter and sweet.*

Bitter and sweet in terms of its content.

In the revelation there are some bitter things recorded - like the demon like army, a third of the world destroyed, are terrible events.

The visible return of Jesus, our home in heaven, the new heaven and earth, righteousness reigning are all triumphant events as well.

Gods word is both bitter and sweet in terms of its effect on our own life.

When we make Gods Word part of our life; when we allow God's word to speak to us it causes both hurt and healing.

You know when you go to the surgeon and you want him to remove a cancerous tumor, the first thing he has to do is take a scalpel and open you up.

This is hurt inflicted on you that would be very painful if it weren't for the anesthesia you are given.

The reason he opens you up is not because he is a masochist.

God wants to produce healing.

Hurt is a prerequisite on to healing.

Deuteronomy 32:39

39 See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

It is I who wounds and I who heals.

You know the scalpel that God uses to produce this healing is the word of God.

Hebrews 4:

1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not

being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

4 For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.

5 And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest.

6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:

7 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

8 For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.

9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

For the word of God is alive, it is active, it is sharper than any two edged sword.

This is power in the Word of God.

It produces hurt and it produces healing.

Now what does this mean to me?

We've talked about a big angel, John digesting/eating the whole little book.

What is the message for today?

Remember the name of today, you are what you eat!

The Bible says as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.

If you want to transformation God has planned for you, **you have to change your spiritual diet.**

You have to eat and assimilate Gods word into your life.

And so today, I thought I'd close the message by giving you **5 very practical ways you and I can eat the book, assimilate Gods word and make it a part of our life.**

Remember what the angel commanded John to do.

He said take the book.

John ultimately grabbed the book and took it.

He was suppose to take it.

John had to use his whole hand and all 5 fingers.

There are 5 ways we can get a grip on this:

1. Listen to God's word.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

There is something powerful to listen to the word of God.

This is why we assemble together on Sunday.

Every Christian needs to be part of a local church and set under a pastor who shares the truth of Gods word.

But that's not enough of God's word.

Our world is so polluted that we need to hear it more often.

50 years ago, if you wanted to hear God's word you had to come to church; and we did that joyfully.

You had to come to church physically to hear it or you could maybe tune in on the radio and listen to it.

God has given us a great privilege today that we can listen to God's word any time we want to and allow it to change our life.

And again, more than just once a week.

Personally, when driving to church my first inclination is to listen to talk radio.

But I don't want to start my day that way.

I either listen to a pod cast or a Christian radio station to listen to God's word to start my day off right.

We need to listen to God's word.

2. We need to read the word of God. Read the Word of God.

The *psalmist says in 118:19 Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the LORD:*

There is something more powerful about reading God's word.

Some like to read through the Bible in one year; Others like to take a book of the New Testament.

2/3 of the New Testament books can be read in 20 minutes or less.

Move from one to another one.

The idea is a regular plan for reading God's word.

Read it once a day.

Just have a plan to read it!

3. Study the word of God.

II Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

A workman doesn't need to be ashamed of studying the word of God.

Do you know the difference between a tourist and an explorer?

A tourist is trying to get to a destination, so he pauses just long enough to get the high points of an area before moving closer to his destination.

I grew up in a family where my father was a tourist.

He took us lots of places, but his goal was to get us to a place by night time.

I took up that same thing.

My family was just like Chevy Chase in the movie where they went to the Grand Canyon and only had 5 minutes to look at it.

An explorer takes his time.

He studies in-depth what he's looking at.

Takes in all the details.

The riches of God's word are for explorers.

How do you study God's word?

There is a tremendous book on how to study God's word, **“Living by the Book” by Howard Hendricks and his son, William. The subtitle is the art and science of reading the Bible.** I'd encourage you to get this book. You can get this book on Amazon.

In fact I'm so impressed about this that our church is going to do a study on how to study the Bible.

If we're gonna get a grip on God's word we need to listen, read, and study.

4. We need to Memorize the word of God, especially key verses that deal with difficulty we are going to encounter in our life.

Do you know where to turn?

If you were consumed with anxiety and didn't know how to quit worrying, would you know which scripture will help you with this?

If a temptation suddenly comes into your life, do you know which scripture to turn to to flee this? I remember hearing about an airplane where a pilot started experiencing the nose of the airplane pitching upward.

The plane eventually began to plummet to earth and the last moments of this plane the pilot was flipping thru a manual to determine how to resolve this.

The plane crashed and 138 people died.

If you wait you will wait too long.

The time to put God in your life is NOW. Don't wait!

Christ quoted exact verse from Deuteronomy that dealt with temptation.

Psalm 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

5. The most important one. **We need to meditate on the word of God.**

What do I mean?

Meditation literally means to turn over in your mind.

Refer to a cow chewing its cut.

Turnover in your mind the living Bible, Psalm 1 captures this.

They delight in doing everything God wants them to and meditate on Gods word, thinking of ways to follow him more closely.

That's what meditation is.

Turning Gods word over in your mind, thinking of ways to follow God more closely.

God didn't give us his word to make us smarter sinners.

He gave us His word to think about how it applies to you and making what change is necessary.

This week, earlier in the week I was listening to Gods word. It was a sermon on

Malachi 3:

1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

7 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them.

Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

13 Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?

14 Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

15 And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Bring all the tithes into the store house.

I thought boy, that preacher is making an excellent point and I need to share this with my church next Sunday; and then the Holy Spirit said to me that before I share this I need to apply it.

He brought to my mind some extra income I had received and I hadn't written my tithe check on it.

When I realized what I had to do, it was bitter for just a moment.

It hurt just a little as I thought about writing that check.

But that bitterness was replaced by sweetness as I was able to thank God for this blessing.

This is exactly what Gods word does.

It convicts but it does so in order to bring blessing into our life.

If you want to experience Gods' blessing in our life, we must increase our level of obedience in our life.

Joshua 1:8

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Be careful to do what is written in all that it is.

For then you will make your way prosperous and have success.

This is the value of eating the word of God!

Sister Shelbia:

This was a lot more encouraging than last weeks message.

God knew this was going to be heavy things, so here we have a little interval, but there is something I'm going address because I feel like I have to.

I'm sure I have smart ladies here.

I'm sure someone is reading in the wrath and glory book. The interesting thing is that not everyone agrees with who that big angel is. When I noticed it wasn't identified as to who it was, I found this in the Wrath and Glory book. **Page 77, he talks about the fact that chapter 10 is a parenthesis that presents a flash-forward to assure every reader that everything is going to turn out ok in the end!**

It starts with an unusual angel.

John suddenly sees a very unusual angel – a strong angel.

The angel is clothed with a cloud, He has a rainbow on his head, his face is like the sun, and his feet is like a pillar of fire. Rev 10:1

Dr. Reagan said, he doesn't think there's much doubt about who this is - he thinks its Jesus.

This is one of the fun things about this book and next week it will be even more fun with the two witnesses.

I'm going to give you a few things that Dr. Reagan says here and what brother Jack has in his study notes.

Dr. Reagan thinks its Jesus.

The point is not that Jesus is an angel cause we know from Hebrews 1 and from the rest of the Bible that Jesus is not an angel. He is God in the flesh and He is greater than all the angels, and that's the reason all the Angels worship Him. (Hebrews 1:6).

Hebrews 1:6 *And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.* He's existed forever, whereas the angels were created. The imagery here is based on Old Testament passages that present Jesus in his pre-incarnation state as "**The angel of the lord**" which is:

Exodus 3:2-6

2 *And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.* GOD appeared to Moses in the burning bush.

3 *And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.*

4 *And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.*

5 *And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.*

6 *Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.*

Excerpt from **WRATH AND GLORY:**

Dr. Reagan says, 'we know this is Jesus because He is clothed with a cloud which is representative of the Shemitah glory fo God. Further, He has a rainbow upon His head, and we as in Chapter 4 that's the symbol of faithfulness that crowns the throne of God. His face is like the sun. That's right out of the description of Jesus in chapter 1 (Verse 16), as is the reference to His feet being like pillars of fire (1:15).

The clue that clinches the angels' indie it's is in very 2 where we are told that He has a little scroll in His right hand which He holds up as he claims possession of the earth. In Revelation 5, we learned that Jesus was the only one in all the universe who was qualified to take that scroll from the hand of God the Father. What we have here is another flash forward to the end of the Tribulation to assure us that everything is going to turn out all right. Jesus is going to return in triumph to claim the earth for the children of God.

Revelation 5:

1 *And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.*

2 *And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?*

3 *And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.*

4 *And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.*

5 *And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.*

6 *And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.*

7 *And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.*

8 *And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.*

9 *And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;*

10 *And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.*

11 *And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;*

12 *Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom,*

and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

14 And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

Dr. Jeffress said he was presented as an angel of the Lord.

He has a rainbow on his head - symbol of faithfulness that crowns the throne of God.

His face is like the son.

Revelation 1:16

16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

as his reference to feet being like pillars of fire

Revelation 1:15.

15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

Brother Jacks study notes – Revelation 10:1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire (KJV)

ANOTHER MIGHTY ANGEL: Here we have a mighty Angel. Because of the description that goes with it, this seems to be a title of office, not of nature; for the **attire of this angel indicates deity.**

There are **76 references to angels in Revelation**, but some scholars see this mighty angel as Christ.

Some who agree with this view are: 6-8 experts agree: Ironsides; Dehaan; Larkin; Missler and Swiss; Adam Clark says its either Christ or his representative; clothed with a cloud; a symbol of the Divine Majesty;" Matthew Henry says "We are led to think its none other than our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Some who disagree with this view that this Mighty Angel is Christ are:

Jay Vernon McGee

Dr. John Walvoord;

John MacArther

Tim LaHay

So whoever you agree with you will be in good company.

The word angel means messenger. The word Angel, by the way, is untranslated. So we see another Mighty Messenger come down. Now the reason that many see this Angel as Christ, is that, first of all:

Reasons the mighty angel could be Christ:

1. He was clothed with a cloud. Angel means messenger.

Exodus 16:10 And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Exodus 19:9 And the LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee for ever. And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD.

Exodus 24:15 And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount.

Exodus 34:5 And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

Psalms 104:3 Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:

Other places in the Old Testament that we see Him (Christ) associated with a cloud:

Matthew 17

1 And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,

2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

4 Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

7 And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.

8 And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.

9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

10 And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come?

11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things.

12 But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them.

13 Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.

14 And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying,

15 Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.

16 And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.

17 Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.

18 And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.

19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?

20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

22 And while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said unto them, The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men:

23 And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again. And they were exceeding sorry.

24 And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute?

25 He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers?

26 Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free.

27 Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.

Mark 9

1 And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.

2 And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them.

3 And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.

4 And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.

5 And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

6 For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid.

7 And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

8 And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only with themselves.

9 And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead.

10 And they kept that saying with themselves, questioning one with another what the rising from the dead should mean.

11 And they asked him, saying, Why say the scribes that Elias must first come?

12 And he answered and told them, Elias verily cometh first, and restoreth all things; and how it is written of the Son of man, that he must suffer many things, and be set at nought.

13 But I say unto you, That Elias is indeed come, and they have done unto him whatsoever they listed, as it is written of him.

14 And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them.

15 And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him.

16 And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them?

17 And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;

18 And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.

19 He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.

20 And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.

21 And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.

22 And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.

23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

26 And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.

27 But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

28 And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out?

29 And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.

30 And they departed thence, and passed through Galilee; and he would not that any man should know it.

31 *For he taught his disciples, and said unto them, The Son of man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and after that he is killed, he shall rise the third day.*
32 *But they understood not that saying, and were afraid to ask him.*
33 *And he came to Capernaum: and being in the house he asked them, What was it that ye disputed among yourselves by the way?*
34 *But they held their peace: for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest.*
35 *And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.*
36 *And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them,*
37 *Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me.*
38 *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.*
41 *For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.*
42 *And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.*
43 *And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:*
44 *Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.*
45 *And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:*
46 *Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.*
47 *And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:*
48 *Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.*
49 *For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.*
50 *Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.*

Luke 9 - clothed with cloud at the transfiguration

1 *Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.*
2 *And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.*
3 *And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece.*
4 *And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart.*
5 *And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them.*
6 *And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.*
7 *Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by him: and he was perplexed, because that it was said of some, that John was risen from the dead;*
8 *And of some, that Elias had appeared; and of others, that one of the old prophets was risen again.*
9 *And Herod said, John have I beheaded: but who is this, of whom I hear such things? And he desired to see him.*
10 *And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida.*

11 *And the people, when they knew it, followed him: and he received them, and spake unto them of the kingdom of God, and healed them that had need of healing.*

12 *And when the day began to wear away, then came the twelve, and said unto him, Send the multitude away, that they may go into the towns and country round about, and lodge, and get victuals: for we are here in a desert place.*

13 *But he said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they said, We have no more but five loaves and two fishes; except we should go and buy meat for all this people.*

14 *For they were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, Make them sit down by fifties in a company.*

15 *And they did so, and made them all sit down.*

16 *Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude.*

17 *And they did eat, and were all filled: and there was taken up of fragments that remained to them twelve baskets.*

18 *And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am?*

19 *They answering said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again.*

20 *He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God.*

21 *And he straitly charged them, and commanded them to tell no man that thing;*

22 *Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day.*

23 *And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.*

24 *For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.*

25 *For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?*

26 *For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.*

27 *But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.*

28 *And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray.*

29 *And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering.*

30 *And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias:*

31 *Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.*

32 *But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.*

33 *And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said.*

34 *While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud.*

35 *And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.*

36 *And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen.*

37 *And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much people met him.*

38 *And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child.*

39 *And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him.*

40 And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not.
41 And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.
42 And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.
43 And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples,
44 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men.
45 But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.
46 Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.
47 And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him,
48 And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great.
49 And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbad him, because he followeth not with us.
50 And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us.
51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,
52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.
53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.
54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?
55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.
56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.
57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.
58 And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.
59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.
60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.
61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.
62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

He was clothed with a cloud; and in Luke 21:27, and Revelaiton 1:7 we find at His second coming He will come in a cloud.

Luke 21:27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Rev 1:7 (He will come in a cloud) 7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

In Acts 1:9 we see him taken up in a cloud.

Acts 1:9 (taken up in cloud) 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

And of course in Revelation 1:7 it says: (Behold, he cometh with clouds) 7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

There are more scriptures where it talks about a rainbow on his head and His face as if it were the sun; and the transfiguration of his feet as pillars of fire.

Revelation 10:1 we see a rainbow upon His head; and that may be the same rainbow we saw in Revelation 4:3

“His face was as it were the sun”. That sounds like Revelation 1:16;

And again it sounds like Matthew 17:2 at the transfiguration.

And His feet were as pillars of fire; “again that sounds similar to Revelation 1:15.

Later in Revelation 10:3, we are going to find that His voice is “as when a Lion roareth.” Which is reminiscent of Revelation 5:5.

Rev 10:3 – (voice as a lion) 3 And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

Rev 5:5 (voice as a lion roared) 5 And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

Brother Jack places emphasis on the study notes that were on Old Testament ground. The Old Testament is involved in book of Revelation, which is why he goes all over the Bible with his references. Brother Jack says Jesus often appeared in the Old Testament as “The Angel of the Lord.” We often find that phrase, referring to the second person of the Godhead.. These are regarded by most scholars as, Pre-incarnate appearances of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament, in places such as:

Exodus 3:2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

Judges 2:4 And it came to pass, when the angel of the LORD spake these words unto all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept.

Judges 6:11-12

11 And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.

12 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

Judges 6:21-22

21 Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight.

22 And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the LORD, Gideon said, Alas, O LORD God! for because I have seen an angel of the LORD face to face.

II Samuel 24:16 when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD was by the threshingplace of Araunah the Jebusite.

In Isaiah 63:9, He is called, “The Angel of His presence”. 9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them and carried them all the days of old.

Here's the interesting one, Joshua 5:13-15 we find an interesting little episode where we have an Old Testament appearance of the second person of the Godhead in which He calls Himself "The Captain of the Lords Host." And remember we said at the onset of this book that we are very much on Old Testament ground.

Joshua 5:13-15

13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?

14 And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

15 And the captain of the LORD's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

This angel, it turns out, seems to have the authority of God's throne, which is another supportive thought of it being Jesus Christ.

(Brother Davis' study notes: pages 185,186,187)

Brother Jack Davis - in the chapter 11, This angel, it turns out, seems to have the authority of Go'ds Throne, which is another supportive thought of it being Jesus Christ. **Now here comes the clincher for me** — In the chapter following (Revelation 11), this same mighty angel is still speaking and he speaks of two witnesses as "**my witnesses**" which is further evidence that the "**Mighty Angel**" is none other than Christ himself.

There are some strong reasons for believing this Mighty Angel is Christ.

Brother jack says so there you have it.

So it leaves up to us to decide who the might angel is. **Brother Jack thinks it is none other than Christ.**

Well with that said; let's move on to the next Mystery...

However, thankfully it doesn't matter a whole lot as far as our salvation is.

Its just a matter of interest to Shelbia how the men go all over the Bible and try to decide.

Shelbia is leaning one way but isn't going to share that.

The interesting thing about the little book - its pretty much decided that the little book is the same as the scroll sealed with the 7 seals.

Shelbia thought it was fascinating about the bitter and the sweet; and how he talked about us eating that book and hearing goods word, reading it, memorizing, studying it and meditating on his word.

Very interesting, makes me think if I've never studied the Bible.

He talked about 7 thunders - really neat that God told John to seal them up and not write them down.

That is still in the future for us to find out what God said when the 7 thunders uttered words.

This begs the question, why did he mention them at all.

As a result there are many theological ideas as to what the 7 thunders said.

This is the only sealed book in revelation.

Revelation is the unveiling of the future.

By contrast, the book of Daniel was temporarily sealed until the time of the end.

The 7 thunders - what they said is sealed.

Shelbia has never heard this before - she believes one reason this is in the Bible is to built a doctrine on the basis that the cannon is complete.

There is belief that it is complete in the practical sense.

I Cor 13:10 - 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

The gifts of spirit were only operative until the cannon is complete.

One way to destroy this argument is to say the cannon is not complete. Thus the reason for the mystery of the 7 thunders.

Just to further look at this in the Old Testament, Dr. C says 7 times his thunder called the voice of the lord in the 29th Psalm.

What to make of this is that we know nothing about these voices. Some scholars suspect whatever the thunders are - they have a link to

Psalm 29:

1 Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

2 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters.

4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

5 The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.

6 He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn.

7 The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.

8 The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.

9 The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.

10 The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever.

11 The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.

That's as far as I'm going to go with this.

The study notes on revelation, we have more than one copy. We can also make copies for anyone that wants them.

I'm going to mention again, our signs of life cards.

These came from Dr. Jeremiah, Turning Point.

Copies were made for everyone.

They are memory verses with a life application on the back.

Keep these where you know they are and look at them.

They are very good to keep our minds focused on God.

To keep in tune and keep balanced.

LIFE CARDS:

Phil 2:14-15

14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

We need to think about this - in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. If there ever was one, we are surely there now.

Application - my words and actions evidence Christ in dwelling.

James 2:17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

Application - my faith is expressed thru works.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Application - I am a source of light in a dark world.

John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Application - Every moment of my life is a living moment with God.

KEEP THESE HANDY AND GO OVER THEM FROM TIME TO TIME

Also, wanted to mentioned a couple more of:

WHO AM I:

Since I am in Christ by the grace of God I have been justified, completely forgiven and made righteous. Romans 5:1

Very important that we remember to have peace with God. Its sought after today and its illusion. We have to fight it and hang on to it.

I died with Christ!

Roman 6:1-6

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

This is a wonderful fork of the crucifixion.

We are dead to sin in Christ.

So, I think I will stop right there.

Story from Max Lucado - **GIVE EVERY DAY A CHANCE:**

When Max was in high school, he saw posted outside the choir rehearsal room a flyer for auditions for a high school musical – Oklahoma.

Try outs were the next Thursday and Friday.

Max said if Buddy Holly and Roy Orbison could leap from West Texas to the big stage so why couldn't I.

Max was a sophomore, brimming with untapped and undiscovered talent. Besides, he already had the boots, hat and accent. Why not give it a go?

His audition was stellar, until he opened my mouth to sing.

The music director covered his ears and placed his head between his knees.

Outside the window a dog began to howl.

On the wall, the paint began to curl.

Still the director said he might have a spot for me.

He asked if I had theatre experience.

I told him I went to the movies once a month.

He gave me a script and a page number that had my part, which fit on one page.....one paragraph on one page.

More accurately, one line in one paragraph on one page.

Decades later I still remember both words,

having knelt over the body of a just shot cowboy I was to lift my head and cry in desperation, He's Daid! Not he's dead.

Others might resent such a diminutive role. But, not me.

We're my words not essential? Someone has to announce a state death. I poured my soul into that line (or two words). Why had you looked closely enough, you might had spotted a tiny tear forming in the corner of my eye.

Rogers and Hammerstein would have been proud of me. But of course, they never knew. When they wrote their story they weren't thinking of me. But **when God wrote his, He was thinking of us all!**

What's your part? Don't think for a moment that you don't have one.

God "shaped each person in turn."

Psalm 33:15 He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works.

"Each of us is an original"

Galatians 5:26

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

He cast you in his play, wrote you into his story. No assignment too small. No lines too brief. He has a definite direction for your life. Fulfill it and enjoy fulfillment.

Play the part God prepared for you and get ready for some great days.

SHELBY's story –

Most of you know that our middle son is a dwarf.

When he was at Hazelwood High he got put into a play.

It was a western.

The whole theme of the story was about this town and they were having all kinds of issues.

The entire play was built around the sheriff that was going to come fix thing.

Everyone was trembling and talking about the Sherrill who was going to be there.

The sheriff arrived and it was my Tim, the dwarf.

The laughter was so loud nobody heard his one line.

His line was something to the effect that he was there to shape up this place.

On the way home a snow had come.

Jerry was working and we lived in Bella Ridge with hills all around.

I was always nervous about driving in bad weather, so I'm wondering how the hill would be on the way home.

God got us there without the tires spinning.

He'll take care of all of us if we stay close to him.

Devotional prayer - Love worth finding devotional.

One of the grandest privileges we have is the privilege of prayer. I believe when we get to heaven this is one of the things that will amaze us is that we prayed so poorly, and we prayed so little while on earth. I want to tell you that you do not have a failure in your life but what is a prayer failure. You do not have a need in your life but what prayer could supply that need. There's not a sin in your life that a proper prayer life couldn't overcome. Hymn writer Joseph M. Scriven penned these words, "Oh what a peace we often forfeit, oh what a needless pain we bare. All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer." Friend, rather than wringing our hands, we ought to be on our knees.

ACTION POINT: Spend some time in prayer offering praise to God for hearing and answering every prayer you offer to Him. He may answer, "yes," He may answer "No." He may answer, "Wait." But, He will answer!

Sister Sharon - It has been an absolutely wonderful day. For the participation, the lesson, the things you have shared.

Prayer list same as last week:

Mr. Dunn

Bill and Bessie

Jennifer

Jeremiah

Dennis

Doug

Jean

Charles- Need to know the Lord
Praising God for the money for Israel.
Praise God for his word.
Pray for the leaders of our country, our country.
Brett's family
Cheryl's family
Jerry starts his chemo on Tuesday.
Joyce Pirtle

Father God in Heaven,

Dear father how we praise you this day. We praise you for who you are, how you love us, how we love you. Father as I have just read over this list and as people have added names, we know that you know every situation. Every word we have spoken, every name lifted up, you know all about them. You know their needs and father god we know that you already know the outcome. WE lift each one up to you and we know you are in control of all things. We thank you for this wonderful Bible study, for technology, that even though we aren't able to be together, we hear you word. What a wonderful thing technology is. We thank you fro SHelbia, awe are truly blessed by you. How we love and praise you, adn thank you for the answer about Israel. We thank you for your world. We praise you this day. Oh how we love you. In Jesus name, Amen.