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Personal Report

From November 1st to the middle of December has probably been the most important period of my life. I went to the ER by ambulance twice, by car three times, as I recall. Twice I was told that I had escaped death by a matter of hours. I was diagnosed as manic and delusional, which I certainly was, and scared my family very badly; I was also diagnosed as having had a stroke, but a CAT scan and other tests failed to show any evidence of a stroke.

In December I spent a week as a patient in the Grand Junction VA Hospital, and eight days in their rehab unit. My praise for the VA hospital here is unbounded. I have visited scores of hospitals and nursing homes in 60 years of ministry, but none of them hold a candle to what we have here in Grand Junction. It rates as the best in the U.S. by any measure. How blessed can I be that I live only 10 minutes away from such a facility.

While all of the above describes very briefly the external things that happened to me in that 6-week period, it was what happened to me internally that stands out in my mind. There have been three watershed moments in my spiritual life: (1) my conversion to become a follower of Christ at age 30; (2) the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and deliverance from demons at age 46; (3) and the period described above at almost 95 years of age (only two months till February).

I am a different person now than I was in October. Physically, in October I was driving my own car, taking care of myself, going to the gym three times a week. In some ways I became my actual physical age in November.

After frightening my sister while driving us home from a restaurant, I gave up driving....and had the joy of giving my car to my grandson, Josh, who flew here with his wife, Karen, to drive it back to Los

Angeles. That was one of the most joyful experiences I have ever had.

November was for me a time of deep revelation of the love and faithfulness of God. It was also a time of revelation about myself: I learned that I have been ruled more by a religious spirit than by a close relationship with the Lord Jesus and His Father.

My understanding of the Bible has been deepened and rearranged; my theology is being corrected; and my love for God and for people is, I believe, deeper and broader. By broader I mean that for the first time in my life I truly love and respect people of other religions or no religion - Muslims, Buddhists, Mormons, atheists, etc.

If I am truly a better person, and only time and my words and actions will reveal that, then I can claim no credit at all. It is only because of the mercy and grace of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. I cannot find words to express how thankful I am to Him for His forgiving me and restoring me as one of His followers.

A FEW OF MY CONVICTIONS

(Note: You and I and all Christians have a number of common beliefs that are foundational to our faith: the Apostles' Creed expresses many of those common beliefs; the Bible is the word of God; Jesus Christ was the Son of God who died on the cross for our sins; God is the Creator; God will judge all men and women at the final judgment; etc. Our convictions, on the other hand, are our opinions and may vary very much when compared to the opinions/convictions of other denominations or other people within the same church or denomination.

For instance: the mode of water baptism - immersed, sprinkled or poured. This may sound trivial to us today, but wars have been fought in the past over this very matter. Another long-standing subject that divides Christians is whether there will be a pre-trib, mid-trib, or post-trib rapture; etc.

I want you to understand that the convictions I share are my opinion, and you don't have to agree with me in order for us to be brothers in the faith.)

Some of the convictions I have today are brand new, while some others have been in my heart for a long time. Following are some of the beliefs/convictions that I now have, and I will spend considerable time in this report and following reports explaining and defending these beliefs:

1. I believe that today's church, the church that you and I have grown up in and are now a part of, bears almost no resemblance to the faithful group of disciples that Jesus drew to himself. That small group of believers - so beautifully portrayed in The Chosen television series - lived such sacrificial lives of love that they eventually conquered the mighty Roman empire. Our church today has for the most part surrendered to our society, and church culture is mostly just a religious expression of The American Dream.

2. I need to say again as I said in my November Newsletter that some of my new convictions were formed as I read the book by David Bercot, Will the Real Heretics Please Stand Up. Mr. Bercot's point is that we modern Christians are the real heretics. You can buy this book on Amazon for only a few dollars. I hope and pray that you will be willing to stretch your mind and heart by reading such an important book about the faith and practices of the early church of Jesus Christ - which vary almost totally from the Christendom with which we are familiar.

3. Every civilization known to history: the Medes and Persians, the Babylonians, Greeks, Romans, British, etc, was eventually destroyed both from within by corruption and/or from without as their weakness made them vulnerable to their neighbors. Our beloved America has fallen into this cycle. We are destroying ourselves by our pride, hatred, selfishness, greed, lusts, and delusions. Our downward cycle will not abate, it will accelerate. Natural disasters, drought, political wars (if President Trump is reelected in 2024, there will be hell to pay. If the Democrats try to bar him from assuming the office he has won in the election, there will also be hell to pay. Half of the country would rather die than see him seated, and hundreds of thousands will die in the ensuing civil war.)

Our decline as a nation is unimaginable to most of us at this present time. **Read the book of**

Jeremiah. In place of Israel and Jerusalem, substitute America and Washington, D.C.

The United States of America is worse than Sodom. Judgment is coming to our beautiful country, "burning like a fiery furnace," as it says in Malachi in the old King James version. This is not debatable, it has already started as anyone with eyes in their head can plainly see.

Next month, or the month after, I am going to reprint the prophetic dreams God gave me in 1998, 1999, and 2004, about the looming judgment on America if we did not repent. They are starting to come into clearer focus.

4. "Eternal Security" is a doctrine that is believed by at least 90% of Christendom. It is a false doctrine, created to comfort the millions of "Christians" who falsely claim to be followers of Christ. Please read the statement of Jesus Christ at the end of his Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 7:15-27. Then read Hebrews 6:4-12; and Hebrews 10:19-29; and 2 Peter 2:20-22.

Now if you believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God, please explain how we Christians can continually ignore these clear warnings in Scripture.

5. When in my last Newsletter I testified about the terrifying confrontation I had with God when he confronted me with my my ongoing "little" sins and the disobedience that had marked my Christian life and service, many rushed to console me and tell me I was feeling too guilty, that God was too full of grace and mercy to punish a faithful old guy like myself. And the idea that he would reward my years of faithful service by sending me to hell!!!! It was too outrageous to be considered.

My dear friends, will you please stop it. When Peter rebuked Jesus for saying he was going to die on a cross to pay for our sins, Jesus responded: "Get thee behind me, Satan!" It is a serious and dangerous thing to intervene in another person's life when he has been rebuked and warned and corrected by God. Please stop and pray before you defend another person from the necessary corrections that our Creator speaks into someone's life.

Our common problem is that we are used to being in a Church that carefully cherry-picks out of the Bible only loving, encouraging, hopeful, positive words.....and avoids like the plague the preceding or following verses that start with the word, "If." If you will obey me and repent, then I will bless you, but if you don't obey me, then.....

If.....then. If.....then. If.....then.
All through the Bible.

We preachers do not like those “if, then,” verses. We avoid them. They make people feel down, negative. We are the Great Encouragers. We want everyone to go home feeling positive. Read in the Old Testament books of Isaiah and Jeremiah how the false prophets continually encouraged the people of Israel by assuring them that God would never destroy his chosen people; that he would certainly never destroy the Temple and the eternal city of Jerusalem.

Then read how in 70 AD God brought the Roman General Titus with a great army that surrounded and besieged Jerusalem for three years and how the Roman army did exactly what God’s prophets had been warning the people about for decades. And read what happened to the false prophets who had been prophesying lies to the people instead of warning them to repent and start obeying God. Remember that Jesus wept over Jerusalem because they did not accept him as their Messiah and specifically warned them that the destruction prophesied by Isaiah, Jeremiah, and all the other prophets was going to happen. God, have mercy on our souls.

6. We American Chistians are exactly like the Isrealites portrayed in Isaiah and Jeremiah. We simply don’t believe that things are going to get that bad. Things will turn around. We are a great nation with wealth and wisdom and resilience. And God simply would not allow such a catastrophe to come on all the faithful Christians in our land. If worse comes to worse, God will rescue us wonderful American Christians with the Great Escape, the pre-tribulation rapture.

Please, I have dedicated Christian friends who believe with all their hearts in this doctrine, while my conviction, my opinion, is that it is ludicrous wishful thinking. You may say, “Oh, but my doctrine is Scriptural!” Of course it is. We have over 200 denominations in the United States, and every one of them is Scriptural. You can prove just about anything from Scripture.

During the Civil War, millions of Southern Christians proved that slavery was approved by God. (Of course, slavery was right for Blacks kidnapped in Africa. No one ever suggested it was right for whites living in Jackson, Mississippi or Reston, Virginia, or for the children of plantation owners.)

And you can easily prove that a man should have multiple wives. Abraham, David and Solomon had multiple wives. Case closed.

7. Possibly some who read this newsletter will think, “Glenn what has happened to you? You are not the friendly, encouraging person you were before you had the serious medical events that you told about. You sound angry and negative.”

Yes, I am angry and frustrated, but mostly I am desperate. I believe with all my heart that America is already far down the path toward total destruction as a nation. And I believe the church is primarily responsible for the approaching calamity because we have for generations preached a false version of Christianity: it is easy and comfortable to be a Christian. No cost, no suffering, just a broad, easy path to heaven.

Barna surveys have consistently shown that there is absolutely no difference between the average “Christian” and his pagan neighbor. The only difference is that the “Chistian” attends church and is convinced he has been “saved” because he believes that Jesus was the Son of God and died for his sins.

8. My earnest prayer is that every person who reads this Newsletter will read the book of Jeremiah and ask God: “Father, is it real? Are the horrible things described by Jeremiah - civil war, mass starvation, etc, etc, really coming to our United States? And what would you have me to do, Lord?”

9. Are things absolutely hopeless? Absolutely not. The shofar is sounding out loud and clear. Our Commander is calling His people, His army, to join in the battle. We are being called to rescue the perishing. Will you answer the call at whatever cost to yourself? Or will you remain among the great host of the fearful and undecided? The one thing that you and I cannot avoid is that we will not be found sitting on the fence. There is no fence. Jesus said, “You are either for Me or against Me.” How about you today? Are you with Him or against Him?

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LESSONS ON OBEDIENCE AND HUMILITY

Along with most of my brethren and sistern in ministry, I always found it easier to preach about the Bible than to live it. I especially found it hard to be humble (since I was born in Texas and like all Texas men was tall, good looking, and brave) and

to be obedient to Christ even in the little, unimportant things. God helped me by putting three men in my life who exemplified humility and obedience.

The first was John Wimber, the founder of the Vineyard Fellowship of Churches. Although I didn't know John personally, I once owned over 200 of his teaching tapes, attended several of his conferences, and attended his church services when Doris and I visited our daughter and her family in Los Angeles. I kind of breathed in John Wimber's spirit.

The second was Jose' "Pepe" Quiroz from Mexico City, whom I have known for 30 years and with whom, along with his son, Israel, I have a lifetime covenant.

The third is the former pastor of my current church. I can't remember his name because I don't want to embarrass him, but it is some sort of foreign Japanese name.

I know I have shared the story of how Pepe Quiroz entered the ministry before, but since it is one of my favorite stories I'm going to share it again.

About 55 years ago, Maximo Quiroz, pastor and father of Pepe, moved to a very poor and gang ruled section of Mexico City. These were the very type people he wanted to reach for Christ, so it was an easy choice. Pepe was enrolled in the public grade school a few blocks from his home.

One day during recess, a number of black cars and vans silently surrounded the little square where the boys were playing soccer. A number of thugs surrounded the boys, about 20 of them, grabbed them and stuffed them in the vans. They drove them to a large building on the edge of vast Mexico City. Of course, the families and police and news media were going nuts.

Over the next week or so, the boys were injected twice a day with cocaine. At the end of that time, the boss-thug addressed the boys. He said, We know all about you boys and your families. If you tell anyone, anyone at all, about what happened to you, we are going to go to your home, rape your mother and sisters, then cut the throats of everyone in your family. We will save you for last.

Now, you are going to be our neighborhood drug dealer. Every week we will meet and supply you with our product, and we will give you your personal week's supply to keep you happy. They

then dropped all the boys off several blocks from their school.

The news that the boys all came home was in all the headlines, but not one of the boys would say one word about what had happened to them.

And so in one long week, eight-year old Pepe went from being church boy to being neighborhood drug dealer. Papa Maximo felt he had been run over by a truck. What had happened to innocent, fun-loving church boy, Pepe? He was gone forever, and grim, driven, drug taking and selling Pepe now lived in his house but would no longer attend or participate in church. And so the next ten years passed in a whirl.

When Pepe was 18, all the drug gangs in their section of the city held a huge fiesta. Booze, girls, and Mariachi music. They rented a huge outdoor entertainment facility and their party could be heard for blocks.

At about midnight, Pepe left his table of the 20 boys and their girl-friends and their drinks and drugs to go to the bathroom. As he came back to the table, Pepe heard a strong voice that said to him, "Pepe, leave this place!" Although he had never heard that voice before, he knew it was the voice of God. Pepe was higher than a kite and decided to ignore the voice. Immediately he heard the voice again, and this time it had such a ring of authority that it stopped him in his tracks: "Pepe, leave this place now!"

Without a word to his friends or to his girl-friend, Pepe turned around, walked past the restroom to the exir, found his car and started driving around. He did not find out until late the next day that shortly after he left the fiesta a large rival gang that resented the encroachment of Pepe's little gang, surrounded their table and stabbed or shot every one of Pepe's 19 friends to death.

When Pepe left the fiesta he was very confused. He drove around for several hours and slowly started to sober up. At about 3:00 AM, he found himself cruising past his father's little church. Much to his surprise, there was his father's old car in the parking lot. What could Dad be doing here in the middle of the night? He silently opened the back door and crept into the little sanctuary,

The altar area was lit by a single candle. There at the altar on their knees were his father and mother, sobbing aloud and crying out to God to rescue their son.

Pepe ran, weeping, down the aisle into the arms of his father and mother. A year later, Pepe

was enrolled in Bible School. He became the leading evangelist in Mexico.

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I would like to thank each of you for your support of this ministry.
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