

A Fellowship Of Encouragement !

I USE ADDITIONAL CAPITALS FOR EMPHASIS AND BETTER READABILITY FOR US WHO ARE AGING SAINTS —WJP

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We walk by Faith, and not by sight:

The Physical body has to see with the eyes. The Spirit of man does not! The disciple Thomas was stuck in the flesh and had to see with his eyes before he would believe with his heart that Jesus was Alive.

Jesus allowed Thomas as this 'way of weakness', He let Tom put his fingers in His wounds so that his faith would revive. And Tom's faith did revive and he believed, saying, "My

Lord and my God!"
Lets look at
John 20:24-29 WNT
"Thomas, one of the twelve--surnamed 'the Twin' --was not among them when Jesus came. So the rest of the disciples told him, "We have seen the Master!" His reply was, "Unless I see in his hands the wound made by the nails and put my finger into the wound, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe it. A week later the disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them, when Jesus came--though

the doors were locked--and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace be to you. Then He said to Thomas, "Bring your finger here and feel my hands; bring you hand and put it into my side; and do not be ready to disbelieve but to believe."

"My Lord and my God!" replied Thomas. "Because you have seen me," replied Jesus, "you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

When we limit our believing to the seeing of the human eyes, our Spiritual Progress is hindered. We can be so much more Blessed in Jesus Christ if we are "not ready to disbelieve" as Thomas was being, but READY TO BELIEVE!

Special points of interest:

- **THE WEAKNESS OF MAN FROM THE GARDEN OF EDEN WAS THAT OF NEEDING TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES.**
-Genesis 3:6.
- **OUR ATTITUDE SHOULD BE, "GOD SAID IT, I BELIEVE IT, THAT SETTLES IT"**
- **JESUS CAME IN OUR HUMAN FLESH TO FAMILARIZE HIMSELF WITH OUR WEAKNESS IN ORDER TO BE OUR PERFECT HIGH PRIEST and STRENGTH.**
- **JESUS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST IS ALWAYS PRAYING FOR US IN THIS FAITH.** -Hebrews 7:25

JESUS Is Praying "That thy faith fail not"

Now the disciple Peter was more prepared to believe in His Master, but he was overconfident in himself, bragging to Jesus: "All may stumble and fail," said Peter, "but I never will." "In solemn truth I tell you," replied Jesus, "that this very night, before the cock crows, you will three times disown me"

"Even if I must die with you," declared Peter, "I will never disown you." In like manner protested all the disciples. —Mt 26:33-41. "Keep awake, and pray that you may not enter into temptation: the spirit is right willing, but the body is frail." Lu 22:31-32 —Weymouth N.T. "Simon, Simon, I tell you that Satan has obtained permission to have all of you to sift as wheat is sifted. But I have prayed for You that Your Faith May Not Fail, and you, when at last you have come back to Your True Self, Must Strengthen your brethren." Yes, JESUS is praying for Your Faith 365 days a year. You may stumble, but You too will Make it, and Your Faith will shine like Pure Gold to God's Glory!



The Trying of My Faith:

OH how wonderful it would be to be Born Again with our Faith already perfected! We would be ready for Heavenly living instantly, our relationship to God would be unlimited. We all would be miracle workers in our world.

Instead we are Born Pilgrims in the Faith, strangers in the world, marked for testings by the devil and jestings by his trouble makers..

Doesn't sound like a very pleasant way to begin a new life, does it? Yet James, the half brother of our Lord was very positive concerning trials:

Jas 1:2-4 "Reckon it nothing but JOY, my brethren, whenever you find yourselves hedged in by various trials. Be assured that the testing of your Faith Leads To Power Of Endurance. Only let Endurance have Perfect Results so that you may become Perfect and Complete, deficient in nothing." -Weymouth Translation of the N.T.

As a Christian Believer, I would have to admit that my life in the Faith has been one of learning Endurance. Even battling a degenerat-

ing illness for 28 years which some have imagined me as willingly harboring. I have Continued to walk by Faith and not by sight or feelings of well being. I know that though my flesh is strength less, My Spirit continues to Soar! Though so many things in my life seem to fall short of what I Believe, I Continue to Believe. If in this life only I had faith, I would be, of all men, most miserable. 1co 15:19 "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." —Paul

"Happiness is an inside job" -A quote from Father John Powell: (Tabor)

"We are all pilgrims, beings in process. Each of us must march bravely to a personal drummer, climb our personal mountains, struggle for a destiny that is ours alone. Sometimes it seems much safer just to follow the good old beaten path. -The "road less traveled" always seems so risky. But there is not "one road for all". We are each gifted with an enormous but unique potential. However with our rendezvous with destiny, we have to take chances, run risks, get rejected and be hurt, be knocked down and get back up on our feet. We must learn to survive defeats. It is all so wild, so terrifying, so Adventuresome."

--F J. Powell

Sometimes we wonder why we couldn't live out someone else's life instead of our

own 'lot'. But we are each one allotted a life to make the very best of.

Peter watched the personal walk John had with the Lord. John was the youngest disciple and seemed to have a special privilege among them.

John 21:18-23. One day while JESUS was preparing Peter for his future trials: "In most solemn truth I tell you that whereas, when you were young, you used to put on your girdle and walk whichever way you chose, when you have grown old you will stretch out your arms and some one else will put a girdle round you and carry you where you have no wish to

go." This He said to indicate the kind of death by which that disciple (Peter) would bring glory to God; and after speaking thus He said to him, "Follow me." then Peter asked Jesus about John's future?

"If I desire him to remain till I come," replied Jesus, "what concern is that of yours? You, yourself, must follow me." —WNT

I have seen in my own walk with Christ, that He has a unique plan for every believer, and a unique work for us to faithfully carry out. for Him! We need not compare our success with another disciple.

envy of even sinners. They will never be sick, never be persecuted, always be loved and cherished, always be included in family circles... They will be carrying their pot of gold to the bank, and not a cross to the death of selfishness, for the Glory of God...JESUS WAS A WILLING SERVANT!

From the willful new born to the willing servant.

When Peter was a young disciple, he was willful and hard to yoke to his Master. He was a fisherman, and Jesus needed "a fisher of Men". Often fearless and independent, sure of his own human way of doing things, even to the point of rebuking Jesus concerning His coming suffering in the body. At that point, Jesus had to sternly correct him. (Mt 16:23). God's Will for His Son was not "a bed of roses" but a Cross of Crucifixion. God's plan for Peter would not allow for his own willfulness but provided for a

cross of his own to carry, -once he became a willing servant. If being a disciple of Jesus was a bed of roses, everyone would follow. But it involves our taking up His "cross of crucifixion" while laying our will for personal pampering aside. God is glorified even in Peter's yielding to an upside down cross. Immature believers fear when things don't go their way, they always want to hear that life is going to be Rosy. That their going to be the Star Attraction, the



"Lift up your heads, your Redemption is drawing close" -Luke 21:28

Luke 21:25 "There will be signs in sun, moon, and stars; **and on the earth anguish among nations in their bewilderment at the roaring of the sea and its billows;** —Weymouth Translation. 'And there shall be signs in sun, and moon, and stars, and on the land [is] distress of nations with perplexity, **Sea and billow roaring;** —Young Translation. "There will appear signs in the sun, moon and stars; and on earth nations will be in anxiety and bewilderment **at the sound and surge of the Sea. As people faint with fear at the prospect of what is overtaking the world; for the powers in the heavens will be**

shaken. And they shall See the Son of Man Coming in a Cloud with Tremendous Power and Glory. When These Things Start to happen, stand up and hold your heads high; because you are about to be liberated!" —

Complete Jewish Bible Translation by David H. Stern.

Consider that the 'day after Christmas' 'Tsunami' may have been a START of the Changes upon the earth coming with the ending of the Age of the Gentiles, and Christ's return to His People. "Signs" here alludes to 'an unusual occurrence trans-

cending the common course of Nature'. The 'signs' are Surges and roaring of the Sea upon habitable land masses. This is a very important sign/token Jesus gave to alert His Church, near His Advent, and involves the sun, the moon and even the constellations. How did Jesus Know this? Perhaps from the writings of the Prophet Amos 8:8. (The earth Quakes **the Sea Roars agitated and ascending over the land, drowning, collapsing, and the people who remain are caused to mourn**). Sounds familiar to this world's recent experiences.



Full Body Redemption

The body completion of our Salvation has been assured by Christ's own Resurrection. Even Old Job understood this. Job 19:25 "For I know that my redeemer liveth (again), and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:" And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins (physical organs) be consumed (be spent) within me. 1cor. 15:21 For since by man came death, by man came also the Resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made Alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that Are Christ's at His Coming. 1Co 15:35-58 "But

some one will say, "How can the dead rise? And with what kind of body do they come back?" Foolish man! the Seed you yourself Sow has no Life given to it unless it first dies; and as for what you sow, it is not the plant which is to be that you are sowing, but a Bare Grain, of wheat (it may be) or of something else, and God Gives It A Body as He has seen fit, ...It is the same with the Resurrection of the dead. **The body is sown in a state of decay, it is raised Free From decay; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in Glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in Power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a Spiritual body;** there is a natural body, and there is a Spiritual body; and, according as we did bear the image of the earthly, we shall bear also the Image of the Heavenly. for it behoveth this corruptible to put

on Incorruption, and this mortal to put on Immortality; But when this perishable nature has put on what is Imperishable, and this mortality has put on Immortality, then will the words of Scripture be fulfilled, <"Death has been swallowed up in Victory."> <"Where, O death, is thy victory? Where, O death, is thy sting?"> Now sin is the sting of death, and sin derives its power from the Law; but God be thanked who gives us the victory (utterly vanquishing every trace of decay and death) through our Lord Jesus Christ! Therefore, my dear brethren, be firm, unmovable, busily occupied at all times in the Lord's Work, Knowing that your toil is not fruitless in the Lord."

-K. J. V.



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Currently Teaching Via 6 Newsletters

The Simple Gospel.
A Fellowship Of Encouragement.
Voice of One.
The High Way Men.
Good News For Kids.
Men Of Valor.



WE CAN SHINE LIKE THE STARS OF HEAVEN.

How can a Follower of Jesus Shine like the stars of Heaven in the coming Age, you may wonder?

Daniel tells us how: Dan. 12:1-3
And at that time shall Michael stand up, the Great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people (Israel): and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be Delivered, Every One that shall be Found Written In The Book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to Everlasting Life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be Wise shall Shine as the Brightness of

As I close this Issue of “Encouragement” I remember Jesus words to Simon Peter in Luke 22:32. “But *I* have prayed for *you* that your faith may not fail, and you, when at last you have come back to your true self, must strengthen your brethren.” Sudden fears come to frighten away our faith like the eclipsing of the sun and moon, but as time continues, the Light of Faith will burst through again, and we will come back to our True Self, the Positive Spirit man, Passionately in love with our Lord. We not only are strengthened ourselves, we are able to establish others in their Faith.. Simon means “hearing” by hearing JESUS, he became Peter... “the rock” of conviction!

— W. J. P.



Encouragement !

the firmament; and they that Turn Many To Righteousness as the Stars For Ever and Ever. -K.J.V.

Though Israel is facing her enemies still today, “the age of the gentiles” is closing and Michael will stand for her defense and enable her in her great End of the Age struggle. And not a Believing Jew shall perish, for their names are Written in The Book of those Living In Christ.

“THEY THAT BE WISE” are followers of the Righteous Master, The Soul Savior, JESUS CHRIST! These shall turn many Others to “Righteousness” or Right Relationship with The Only Wise GOD, Through JESUS, the Son, of Wisdom.

Rev 7:4 “And I heard the number

of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

Rev 14:1. Then I looked, and I saw the Lamb standing upon Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 people, having His name and His Father's name written on their foreheads. Re 14:4. These are those who had not defiled themselves with women: they are as pure as virgins. They follow the Lamb wherever He goes.

They have been Redeemed from among men, as Firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.” K.J.V.

Yes, Jewish Converts of JESUS Christ's. Close followers of The Lamb of God will join in the Evangelization of their own People and the rest of the gentile nations at the end of This AGE.