

## WHERE DOES MY HELP COME FROM?

**PSALM 121:2** I LIFT UP MY EYES TO THE HILLS-- WHERE DOES MY HELP COME FROM? <sup>2</sup> MY HELP COMES FROM THE LORD, THE MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

IN OUR CONTINUE PURSUIT OF UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO LIVE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON THIS THOUGHT. WHERE DOES MY HELP COME FROM.

THE WRITER INTRODUCES THIS QUESTION WITH A STATEMENT,. "I LIFT UP MY EYES TO THE HILLS" IN STUDYING SCRIPTURE YOU IMMEDIATELY KNOW HE IS IN A VALLEY

WE SOME TIMES USE THE TERM "I AM SURE DOWN TODAY" **IT DOES NOT TELL US WHAT HAS US DOWN**, IT CAN BE JUST ABOUT ANYTHING; A BAD DOCTORS REPORT, A FIGHT WITH OUR SPOUSE, BAD NEWS ABOUT SOMETHING HAPPENING TO SOME ON IN THE FAMILY, THE STATEMENT JUST TELLS HOW WE ARE FEELING.

THEN THE WRITER BEING DOWN, ASKS THE QUESTION, WHERE DOES MY HELP COME FROM?

FOR JUST A MOMENT, THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU GO TO FOR HELP. HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED IT CHANGES; WHEN I WAS GROWING UP, MY BROTHER AND FOUR SISTER PRETTY MUCH WENT TO EACH OTHER FOR HELP.

AFTER I WAS MARRIED I ALWAYS AND ONLY WENT TO MY WIFE FOR HELP. I SEE OTHERS STILL GOING TO PARENTS, FRIENDS AND A FEW JUST ANYONE WHO WILL LISTEN. I FIND MANY TIMES THIS MAKES FOR A VERY UNSTABLE MARRIAGE.

BUT THE DAY COMES, WHEN THE PERSON WE ARE GOING TO CAN NOT HELP US.

THEN MOST OF US WILL TURN TO GOD.

THE PROBLEM; WE HAVE NO EXPERIENCE OR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IN KNOWING HOW TO GET HELP FORM HIM.

WE AT A FIRST HAND LEVEL, DO OR DO NOT KNOW WHAT GOD CAN OR WILL DO FOR US. WE HEAR FROM ALL KINDS OF SOURCES THE ANSWER TO THESE QUESTIONS, BUT WE HAVE NEVER BOTHERED TO FIND THE ANSWERS FOR OURSELVES.

WE KNOW THE THINGS THE BIBLE SAYS, **1 COR. 1:9** GOD, WHO HAS CALLED YOU INTO FELLOWSHIP WITH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, IS FAITHFUL.

**1 THESSALONS. 5:24** THE ONE WHO CALLS YOU IS FAITHFUL AND HE WILL DO IT.

THE WRITER GOES ON TO SAY, "MY HELP COMES FROM THE LORD,"

WE ALL KNOW THIS AT A HEAD LEVEL BUT DO WE KNOW IT AT A HEART LEVEL.

BUT THE WRITER OF THE PSALM WANTED US READERS TO KNOW WHERE HIS HELP COMES FROM. "MY LORD"

AND THEN HE WANTS US TO KNOW WHO HE IS SPEAKING OF WHEN HE SAYS, "MY LORD"

WHY WOULD HE DO THIS? BACK THEN THE PEOPLE WERE SERVING A LOT OF DIFFERENT LORDS, JUST AS PEOPLE TODAY SERVE A LOT OF DIFFERENT LORDS.

THE LORD THAT WALKED THE SEA OF GALILEE, THE LORD THAT WAS CRUCIFIED, THE LORD THAT

ROSE FROM THE GRAVE. THE LORD THAT SETS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.

AND ALL THOSE MAY BE GOOD FOR THE PERSONS SERVING THEM, BUT THIS WRITER WANTED THE READER AND HEARER TO KNOW THE GOD WHO IS HIS HELP IN THE TIME OF NEED.

THE MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH. - GOD MY CREATOR

HE IS SAYING HE HAS A RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS GOD, HE KNOWS HE WAS CREATED BY HIM, TOO MANY IN THE CHURCH WOULD NOT SAY THIS. THEY WOULD SAY THAT IT IS JUST BY CHANCE THAT WE ARE HERE. THAT MAN IS PROVING THIS ALL THE TIME. IN MY WORDS, THEY ARE MAKING MAN AND THE SCIENCE OF TODAY THEIR GOD. OR MAYBE WE ARE THE PART OF THE CHURCH THAT SAYS WHAT DOES IT MATTER.

IT MATTERS BECAUSE I EITHER BELIEVE THAT GOD IS, AND THAT HE ONLY TELLS THE TRUTH OR I AM DOUBLE MINDED. AND AGAIN IF I AM GOING TO BELIEVE THE BIBLE IT TELLS ME ABOUT BEING DOUBLE MINDED.

**JAMES 1:8** HE IS A DOUBLE-MINDED MAN, UNSTABLE IN ALL HE DOES.

IF I AM THIS WAY WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT IT? **JAMES 4:8** COME NEAR TO GOD AND HE WILL COME NEAR TO YOU. WASH YOUR HANDS, YOU SINNERS, AND PURIFY YOUR HEARTS, YOU DOUBLE-MINDED.

THE WRITER OF THIS PSALM, I SAY AGAIN HAS SETTLE THIS ISSUE. HE WAS CREATED BY GOD. AND THE GOD HE IS SPEAKING OF HAS A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, GOD CARED ENOUGH ABOUT HIM TO CREATE HIM, SO HE VERY LIKELY IS STILL INTERESTED IN HIM.

1. **HEBREWS 4:16** LET US THEN APPROACH THE THRONE OF GRACE WITH CONFIDENCE, SO THAT WE MAY RECEIVE MERCY AND FIND GRACE TO HELP US IN OUR TIME OF NEED.

WHEN WE HAVE A NEED, IF GOD IS OUR HELP IN TIME OF NEED, HE WANT US TO COME TO HIM.

TWO BLESSINGS WE ARE GOING TO RECEIVE BY GOING TO HIM. MERCY AND GRACE.

MERCY **EPHES. 2:4** BUT BECAUSE OF HIS GREAT LOVE FOR US, GOD, WHO IS RICH IN MERCY, AND THE MEANING OF MERCY - GREEK, ELEOS *COMPASSION* (HUMAN OR DIVINE, ESPECIALLY ACTIVE TENDER FEELING TOWARD US, MERCY.

GRACE - **2 COR. 12:8-9** THREE TIMES I PLEADED WITH THE LORD TO TAKE IT AWAY FROM ME. <sup>9</sup>BUT HE SAID TO ME, "**MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU, FOR MY POWER IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS.**" THEREFORE I WILL BOAST ALL THE MORE GLADLY ABOUT MY WEAKNESSES, **SO THAT CHRIST'S POWER MAY REST ON ME.**

AND THE MEANING OF GRACE? *Greek - khar'-ece*; THE UNMERITED FAVOR OF GOD.

AND WHAT DOES THIS UNMERITED FAVOR WITH GOD DO FOR US?

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY HAS COVERED THIS, BUT HERE I NEED TO COVER IT AGAIN.

IN THE BOOK OF JOHN 16<sup>TH</sup> CHAPTER JESUS IS MEETING WITH HIS DISCIPLES ONE LAST TIME BEFORE HE GOES TO THE CROSS. HE TELLS THEM THIS!

**JOHN 16:23** **IN THAT DAY YOU WILL NO LONGER ASK ME ANYTHING. I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, MY FATHER WILL GIVE YOU WHATEVER YOU ASK IN MY NAME.**

JESUS IS SAYING DO NOT ASK ME.

THE ASK USED HERE IS THE GREEK WORD - ZEBBA - WHICH MEANS ASKING FOR SOMETHING BECAUSE YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO IT, LIKE A DOWRY.

THEN HE SAID THE FATHER WILL GIVE YOU WHATEVER YOU ASK.

THE ASK USED HERE IS THE GREEK WORD - EDRA - WHICH MEANS TO ARM OR GIVE POWER. SO LET US GO LOOK AT THE APOSTLE PAUL AGAIN - ONE OF THE MOST MISUNDERSTOOD PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE TODAY.

**2 COR. 12:7-10** TO KEEP ME FROM BECOMING CONCEITED BECAUSE OF THESE SURPASSINGLY GREAT REVELATIONS, THERE WAS GIVEN ME A THORN IN MY FLESH, A MESSENGER OF SATAN, TO TORMENT ME. <sup>8</sup>THREE TIMES I PLEADED WITH THE LORD TO TAKE IT AWAY FROM ME. <sup>9</sup>BUT HE SAID TO ME, "**MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU, FOR MY POWER IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS.**" THEREFORE I WILL BOAST ALL THE MORE GLADLY ABOUT MY WEAKNESSES, SO THAT CHRIST'S POWER MAY REST ON ME. <sup>10</sup>THAT IS WHY, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, I DELIGHT IN WEAKNESSES, IN INSULTS, IN HARDSHIPS, IN PERSECUTIONS, IN DIFFICULTIES. FOR WHEN I AM WEAK, THEN I AM STRONG.

PAUL'S GREAT THORN IN THE FLESH - GREAT SPECULATION ABOUT WHAT IT IS.

BUT WHY THE SPECULATION, HE TELLS US - A DEMON, A MESSENGER OF SATAN TO TORMENT HIM. WHY THE SPECULATION, BECAUSE MANY WHO CALL THEMSELVES CHRISTIANS KNOW LITTLE ABOUT THE SPIRIT WORLD EVEN WHEN GOD SAYS WE ARE SPIRIT, AND THEY DENY THAT DEMONS EXIST.

HOW DID THE DEMON TORMENT HIM?

HE TELLS US!

MY WEAKNESSES, IN INSULTS, IN HARDSHIPS, IN PERSECUTIONS, IN DIFFICULTIES; STONINGS, SHIP WRECKED AND ON AND ON IT GOES.

SO WHAT DID GOD DO FOR PAUL THAT HE WANTS TO DO FOR US.

PAUL SAYS, WHEN I AM WEAK, THE POWER OF CHRIST RESTS ON ME. WHEN I AM WEAK, THEN I AM STRONG, FOR IT IS THEN THAT I AM CHRIST LIKE.

PAUL OVERCAME ALL THE ABOVE THINGS. GOD DID NOT TAKE THIS AWAY, THE GREEK WORD, ZEBBA. WHAT THE GRACE OF GOD DID FOR PAUL IS WHAT HE WANTS TO DO FOR US, HE GAVE PAUL WHAT HE DID NOT EVEN KNOW ENOUGH TO ASK FOR, GREEK WORD EDRA, WHICH MEANS HE GAVE HIM THE POWER TO OVERCOME EVERY SITUATION. WHEN I AM WEAK, **THEN I AM STRONG, FOR IT IS THEN THAT I AM CHRIST LIKE.**

2. **MARK 9:14-29** WHEN THEY CAME TO THE OTHER DISCIPLES, THEY SAW A LARGE CROWD AROUND THEM AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW ARGUING WITH THEM. <sup>15</sup>AS SOON AS ALL THE PEOPLE SAW JESUS, THEY WERE OVERWHELMED WITH WONDER AND RAN TO GREET HIM. <sup>16</sup>"**WHAT ARE YOU ARGUING WITH THEM ABOUT?**" HE ASKED. <sup>17</sup>A MAN IN THE CROWD ANSWERED, "TEACHER, I BROUGHT YOU MY SON, WHO IS POSSESSED BY A SPIRIT THAT HAS ROBBED HIM OF SPEECH. <sup>18</sup>WHENEVER IT SEIZES HIM, IT THROWS HIM TO THE GROUND. HE FOAMS AT THE MOUTH, GNASHES HIS TEETH AND BECOMES RIGID. I ASKED YOUR DISCIPLES TO DRIVE OUT THE SPIRIT, BUT THEY COULD NOT." <sup>19</sup>"**O UNBELIEVING GENERATION,**" JESUS REPLIED, "**HOW LONG SHALL I STAY WITH YOU? HOW LONG SHALL I PUT UP WITH YOU? BRING THE BOY TO ME.**" <sup>20</sup>SO THEY BROUGHT HIM. WHEN THE SPIRIT SAW JESUS, IT IMMEDIATELY

THREW THE BOY INTO A CONVULSION. HE FELL TO THE GROUND AND ROLLED AROUND, FOAMING AT THE MOUTH. <sup>21</sup>JESUS ASKED THE BOY'S FATHER, "HOW LONG HAS HE BEEN LIKE THIS?" "FROM CHILDHOOD," HE ANSWERED. <sup>22</sup>"IT HAS OFTEN THROWN HIM INTO FIRE OR WATER TO KILL HIM. BUT IF YOU CAN DO ANYTHING, TAKE PITY ON US AND HELP US." <sup>23</sup>"IF YOU CAN?" SAID JESUS. "EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE FOR HIM WHO BELIEVES." <sup>24</sup>IMMEDIATELY THE BOY'S FATHER EXCLAIMED, "I DO BELIEVE; HELP ME OVERCOME MY UNBELIEF!" <sup>25</sup>WHEN JESUS SAW THAT A CROWD WAS RUNNING TO THE SCENE, HE REBUKED THE EVIL SPIRIT. "YOU DEAF AND MUTE SPIRIT," HE SAID, "I COMMAND YOU, COME OUT OF HIM AND NEVER ENTER HIM AGAIN." <sup>26</sup>THE SPIRIT SHRIEKED, CONVULSED HIM VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT. THE BOY LOOKED SO MUCH LIKE A CORPSE THAT MANY SAID, "HE'S DEAD." <sup>27</sup>BUT JESUS TOOK HIM BY THE HAND AND LIFTED HIM TO HIS FEET, AND HE STOOD UP. <sup>28</sup>AFTER JESUS HAD GONE INDOORS, HIS DISCIPLES ASKED HIM PRIVATELY, "WHY COULDN'T WE DRIVE IT OUT?" <sup>29</sup>HE REPLIED, "THIS KIND CAN COME OUT ONLY BY FASTING AND PRAYER."

- A. JESUS DESCENDS THE MOUNTAIN AND FINDS PART OF HIS DISCIPLES IN A HOT DEBATE WITH THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW OVER THEIR FAILURE TO DRIVE A DEMON OUT OF A YOUNG BOY ROBBED OF HIS SPEECH.
  - I. THIS DEBATE IS STILL HAPPENING TODAY, IT IS JUST NOT OUT IN THE OPEN AS IT WAS THEN.
  - II. HOW IS THIS QUESTION, "IF YOU CAN" DIFFERENT THAN THE MAN WITH LEPROSY IN **MARK 1:40** A MAN WITH LEPROSY CAME TO HIM AND BEGGED HIM ON HIS KNEES, "IF YOU ARE WILLING, YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN."
  - III. WHAT DOES THE CHURCH STRUGGLE WITH MORE, CAN GOD ANSWER OUR PRAYERS, OR WILL HE ANSWER OUR PRAYERS.
- B. JESUS ASKS THE QUESTION, "<sup>16</sup>**WHAT ARE YOU ARGUING WITH THEM ABOUT?**" - WHY ARE YOU UPSET WITH MY FOLLOWERS.
  - I. A GOOD QUESTION TODAY. YOU ASK GOD OR ONE OF HIS FOLLOWERS FOR SOMETHING. WHY GET UPSET WITH THEM, WITH ME WHEN IT DOES NOT HAPPEN?
- C. THE FATHER KNEW THE REASON AND HE WAS QUICK TO GIVE IT.
  - I. "TEACHER, I BROUGHT YOU MY SON, WHO IS POSSESSED BY A SPIRIT THAT HAS ROBBED HIM OF SPEECH. <sup>18</sup>WHENEVER IT SEIZES HIM, IT THROWS HIM TO THE GROUND. HE FOAMS AT THE MOUTH, GNASHES HIS TEETH AND BECOMES RIGID. I ASKED YOUR DISCIPLES TO DRIVE OUT THE SPIRIT, BUT THEY COULD NOT"
    - (1) FIRST THING TO SEE AND HEAR IS THIS, TEACHER, THIS WILL EXPLAIN THE NEXT PORTION OF SCRIPTURE.
    - (2) THE SECOND THING TO SEE AND HEAR IS THE, **I BROUGHT YOU MY SON** - THE FATHER WAS NOT BRINGING THE SON TO THE DISCIPLES TO HEAL, THAT WAS A SECOND THOUGHT.
    - (3) THE THIRD THING TO SEE AND HEAR IS THIS; WHAT THE FATHER HAD TO SAY ABOUT HIS SON; WHO IS POSSESSED BY A SPIRIT THAT HAS ROBBED HIM OF SPEECH. <sup>18</sup>WHENEVER IT SEIZES HIM, IT THROWS HIM TO THE GROUND. HE FOAMS AT THE MOUTH, GNASHES HIS TEETH AND BECOMES RIGID.

- II. NOW JESUS SPEAKS, WHO IS HE SPEAKING TO? THE SAME ONES HE HAS BEEN SPEAKING TO FROM THE START. HEAR WHAT HE HAS TO SAY!
- (1) <sup>19</sup>"O UNBELIEVING GENERATION," JESUS REPLIED, "HOW LONG SHALL I STAY WITH YOU? HOW LONG SHALL I PUT UP WITH YOU? BRING THE BOY TO ME.
- (A) WHAT GOT THIS REPLY FROM JESUS? BEING CALLED TEACHER, MY QUESTION IN THE BEGINNING, WHICH LORD DO WE SERVE.
- III. WHEN THE BOY WAS BROUGHT TO JESUS, THERE WAS A RESPONSE;
- (1) <sup>20</sup>SO THEY BROUGHT HIM. WHEN THE SPIRIT SAW JESUS, IT IMMEDIATELY THREW THE BOY INTO A CONVULSION. HE FELL TO THE GROUND AND ROLLED AROUND, FOAMING AT THE MOUTH.
- IV. WHEN JESUS SEES THIS HE HAS ANOTHER QUESTION, WHEN JESUS ASKS A QUESTION HE IS NOT LOOKING FOR INFORMATION FOR HIMSELF, HE IS DEPARTING INFORMATION TO THOSE THERE AND TO US TODAY.
- (1) "HOW LONG HAS HE BEEN LIKE THIS?"
- V. THE ANSWER OF THE FATHER, AND IT NEEDS TO BE SEEN IN LIGHT OF WHAT HE TOLD THE DISCIPLES. IT MAY HAVE MADE NO DIFFERENCE TO THEM. BUT TO US, IT SHOULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
- (1) FROM CHILDHOOD," HE ANSWERED. <sup>22</sup>"IT HAS OFTEN THROWN HIM INTO FIRE OR WATER TO KILL HIM. BUT IF YOU CAN DO ANYTHING, TAKE PITY ON US AND HELP US."
- (A) NOW WE KNOW, THIS DEMON HAS BEEN WITH THIS BOY A LONG TIME AND HE IS NOT GOING TO GIVE UP EASY.
- (B) HE IS NOT JUST WANTING TO KEEP THE BOY FROM SPEAKING, HE IS WANTING TO KILL THE BOY.
- (2) AND NOW WE SEE SOMETHING TERRIBLE THAT HAS HAPPENED. THIS MAN IN THE BEGINNING WAS BRINGING THE BOY TO JESUS TO BE HEALED. JESUS WAS NOT THERE. HIS FOLLOWERS FAILED TO HELP THE BOY. NOW THE MAN SAYS, "IF YOU CAN DO ANYTHING, TAKE PITY ON US AND HELP US"
- (A) DOUBT IS LIKE FAITH, IT GROWS.
- (B) AND I BELIEVE THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH. AT FIRST ALL WERE HEALED, THEN FEWER AND FEWER.
- VI. NOW JESUS HAS THE ANSWER OF THE AGES.
- (1) "EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE FOR HIM WHO BELIEVES
- (A) WHO IS THIS POSSIBLE FOR, HIM WHO BELIEVES.
- (B) AGAIN THE QUESTION, WHO IS THIS POSSIBLE FOR?
- (I) JESUS GIVES ONLY ONE QUALIFICATIONS, BELIEVE.
- (C) BELIEVES WHAT, THAT IS THE NEXT QUESTION.
- VII. THE FATHER IS THINKING, JESUS IS TALKING TO ME. SO HE SAYS.
- (1) I DO BELIEVE; HELP ME OVERCOME MY UNBELIEF!"

- (2) I DO NOT BELIEVE I CAN DO IT, BUT HELP MY BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN DO IT.
  - (3) WHERE DO WE STAND ON THIS TODAY?
- VIII. JESUS DOES DRIVE OUT THE DEMON.
- (1) BECAUSE HE HAS THE POWER TO DO IT.
  - (2) FAITH - EFFECTIVE FAITH PRODUCES RESULTS.
  - (3) TRUE FAITH IS NOT A BELIEF IN “FAITH” AS A FORCE OR POWER, BUT IT IS A “FAITH IN GOD” A FAITH THAT SAYS GOD IS A REWARDER OF HIS CHILDREN. AND HIS CHILDREN KNOW THIS. **HEBREWS 11:6** AND WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE GOD, BECAUSE ANYONE WHO COMES TO HIM MUST BELIEVE THAT HE EXISTS AND THAT HE REWARDS THOSE WHO EARNESTLY SEEK HIM.
  - (A) EARNESTLY SEEK HIM.
  - (4) FAITH IS IMPARTED TO US BY CHRIST AND HIS WORD TO DEEPEN OUR COMMITMENT TO, AND CONFIDENCE IN HIM. IT SEEKS CHRIST AS THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH. HIS CLOSE PRESENCE AND OUR OBEDIENCE TO HIS WORD ARE THE SOURCE AND THE SECRET OF FAITH.
- IX. WE CAN SEE THE CONCERN OF THIS EARTHLY FATHER FOR HIS SON, A SON WHO WAS PROBABLY COVERED IN BURN SCARES. WHAT WAS THE HEAVENLY FATHER WILLING TO DO TO SEE THAT THIS CHILD WAS HEALED? WHAT ABOUT HIS CHILDREN TODAY?
- X. FAILURE TO WAGE A WINNING WAR AGAINST DEMONS, DISEASE AND SIN IS SEEN BY JESUS AS A SPIRITUAL WEAKNESS IN HIS FOLLOWERS AT THAT TIME. SHOULD WE NOT ASK, HOW DOES HE FEEL ABOUT IT TO DAY.
- D. IN TEACHING, I AM TOLD THAT WE SHOULD HAVE SOME TESTIMONY. I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU TODAY TWO MORE INSTANCES IN MY LIFE.
- I. WHILE IN OMAHA NEBRASKA I WAS WORKING WITH ANOTHER SUPERVISOR NAMED DWAYNE CLEVELAND. I BELIEVE DWAYNE LIVES IN PAPILLON NOW. DWAYNE AND I HAD KNOW EACH OTHER ABOUT FOUR YEARS. IN THAT TIME THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST HAD NEVER COME UP.
- (1) DWAYNE CAME TO MY DESK ON A MONDAY AND SAID THAT HIS WIFE HAD A WOMAN IN HER OFFICE THAT WAS DYING OF BREAST CANCER. HE AND HIS WIFE HAD TALKED WITH HER ABOUT ME AND THEY WANTED ME TO PRAY WITH HER.
  - (2) I TOLD DWAYNE THAT I WOULD BE HAPPY TO LAY HANDS ON HER AND SEE HER HEALED. SHE SHOULD COME TO THE THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY AT THE CHURCH.
  - (3) HE SAID HE WOULD TELL HER AND HE WAS SURE SHE WOULD BE THERE.
  - (4) THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY CAME AND WENT. WE HAD A LARGE CROWD AND I WAS PLEASED WITH THE DISCUSSION THAT WENT ON.
  - (5) THE FOLLOWING MONDAY WHEN I SAW DWAYNE WALK INTO THE OFFICE I REMEMBERED THAT I WAS SUPPOSED TO PRAY FOR A LADY.
  - (6) I WENT OVER AND TOLD DWAYNE I WAS SORRY, IT JUST SLIPPED MY MIND.

- (7) DWAYNE SAID, “NO PROBLEM, THE LADY SAID AS SHE SET IN THE BIBLE STUDY ALL AT ONCE SHE KNEW SHE WAS HEALED. EVEN BEFORE THE BIBLE STUDY SHE HAD MADE AN APPOINTMENT ON FRIDAY WITH HER DOCTOR TO BE EXAMINED, SHE WAS EXAMINED AND SHE WAS HEALED.
- E. GOD SAYS, **ISAIAH 55:11** SO IS MY WORD THAT GOES OUT FROM MY MOUTH: IT WILL NOT RETURN TO ME EMPTY, BUT WILL ACCOMPLISH WHAT I DESIRE AND ACHIEVE THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH I SENT IT.
- I. **JOHN 5:24** "I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHOEVER HEARS MY WORD AND BELIEVES HIM WHO SENT ME HAS ETERNAL LIFE AND WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED; HE HAS CROSSED OVER FROM DEATH TO LIFE.
3. THIS IS GODS’ WORD.
- A. **ACTS 5:15-16** AS A RESULT, PEOPLE BROUGHT THE SICK INTO THE STREETS AND LAID THEM ON BEDS AND MATS SO THAT AT LEAST PETER'S SHADOW MIGHT FALL ON SOME OF THEM AS HE PASSED BY. <sup>16</sup>CROWDS GATHERED ALSO FROM THE TOWNS AROUND JERUSALEM, BRINGING THEIR SICK AND THOSE TORMENTED BY EVIL SPIRITS, AND ALL OF THEM WERE HEALED.
- B. **ACTS 19:12** SO THAT EVEN HANDKERCHIEFS AND APRONS THAT HAD TOUCHED HIM WERE TAKEN TO THE SICK, AND THEIR ILLNESSES WERE CURED AND THE EVIL SPIRITS LEFT THEM.
- C. **ACTS 28:8** HIS FATHER WAS SICK IN BED, SUFFERING FROM FEVER AND DYSENTERY. PAUL WENT IN TO SEE HIM AND, AFTER PRAYER, PLACED HIS HANDS ON HIM AND HEALED HIM.
- D. **PHILIP. 2:26-27** FOR HE LONGS FOR ALL OF YOU AND IS DISTRESSED BECAUSE YOU HEARD HE WAS ILL. <sup>27</sup>INDEED HE WAS ILL, AND ALMOST DIED. BUT GOD HAD MERCY ON HIM, AND NOT ON HIM ONLY BUT ALSO ON ME, TO SPARE ME SORROW UPON SORROW.
4. **GOD’S PLAN FOR THE CHURCH.**
- A. **JAMES 5:14-15** IS ANY ONE OF YOU SICK? HE SHOULD CALL THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH TO PRAY OVER HIM AND ANOINT HIM WITH OIL IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. <sup>15</sup>AND THE PRAYER OFFERED IN FAITH WILL MAKE THE SICK PERSON WELL; THE LORD WILL RAISE HIM UP. IF HE HAS SINNED, HE WILL BE FORGIVEN.
- I. LET US LOOK AT THIS VERSE.
- (1) IS ANY ONE OF YOU SICK?
- (A) IT SAYS THEIR WILL BE ATTACHES BY SATAN UPON THE CHURCH TODAY. HE WILL BRING SICKNESS.
- (2) HE SHOULD CALL
- (A) THE PERSON SICK MUST PERFORM AN ACT OF FAITH. CALL.
- (3) WHO IS HE TO CALL.
- (A) THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH
- (I) MAYBE THIS SICK PERSON IS LIKE THE FATHER IN OUR SCRIPTURE. HE HAS NO FAITH IN THE DISCIPLES, THE ELDERS. HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE PRAYERS OF THESE PERSONS WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
- (4) IF CALLED, WHAT ARE THE ELDERS TO DO?



(A) PRAY OVER HIM AND ANOINT HIM WITH OIL IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.

(5) IS THERE ANOTHER REQUIREMENT?

(A) <sup>15</sup>AND THE PRAYER OFFERED IN FAITH WILL MAKE THE SICK PERSON WELL

(I) SO IF THESE PERSONS DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS SCRIPTURE APPLIES TODAY, EVERYONE CAN SAVE THEIR EFFORTS.

(6) BUT WHEN ALL THE REQUIREMENTS ARE MET, WHAT HAPPENS?

(A) THE LORD WILL RAISE HIM UP. IF HE HAS SINNED, HE WILL BE FORGIVEN.

5. THE REST OF THE STORY

A. TESTIMONY - DWAYNE AND I HAD A BOSS WHO WAS A CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN NAMED RON GRANVILLE. LATER AFTER THE INCIDENT THAT I TOLD YOU ABOUT BEFORE, HE CALLED ME INTO HIS OFFICE, SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH HIS BOSS, A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF MINE. THAT I WAS TO TAKE A COMPANY CAR AND GO OUT AND SHARE WITH RON'S WIFE MY BELIEVE ON HEALING FOR TODAY BECAUSE SHE NOW HAD BREAST CANCER.

I. I WENT OUT AND SHARED, SHE SAID THANK YOU. DID NOT ASK ME TO PRAY FOR HER.

II. I GOT BACK TO THE OFFICE AND RON SAID SHE JUST DOES NOT BUY IT. HE SAID HE WAS SORRY.

III. I TOLD HIM NOTHING TO BE SORRY FOR.

IV. A COUPLE OF YEARS LATER I WAS BEING MOVED OUT OF THE AREA, RON CALLED ME TO ANOTHER LOCATION WHERE HE BEEN MOVE TO. HE ASK THAT I COME UP AND SEE HIM.

V. HE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN IN CHURCH ALL HIS LIFE, HE JUST WANTED ME TO COME UP AND SHARE WITH HIM BEFORE I LEFT. HE WANTED ABSOLUTE ASSURANCE THAT HE WAS GOING TO HEAVEN.

6. YES ALL ARE NOT HELPED - BUT WHY?

A. **2 TIMOTHY. 4:20** ERASTUS STAYED IN CORINTH, AND I LEFT TROPHIMUS SICK IN MILETUS.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOW - GOD ASKS THAT WE SEEK THAT KINGDOM. THAT KINGDOM IS RIGHTEOUSNESS, MERCY, GRACE AND POWER.

A MEN.