Withered Hand Ministries, Inc.

Evangelism *Stretching* **Forth through the Power** of **Christ**" <u>www.witherdhand.org</u>



Opening Prayer

I Lord I pray, you use this work to show the people that you are the unchanging God. Your word declares it, that what you were yesterday, you are today, and will be tomorrow!

Hebrews 13:8

Lord, I also pray a special prayer that you will assign an Angel with each book and that your Holy Spirit will enlighten those that are seeking a closer walk and a deeper understanding of the truths embedded in your word. A-men "Strength through the Vine"

All Scripture, unless otherwise indicated, is taken from the King James translation of the bible.

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www.witheredhandministriesinternational.com

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Brother Jamal is CEO and Founder at Fire Escape Music and also travels nationwide interviewing Christian talent.

Messenger hosts a radio show Sundays on KROV Radio in San Antonio, Texas.

PREFACE

This past June 28th, 2018 while traveling the roads through Montana, I had a visitation from the Spirit of God saying, "Jerry I want you to rewrite the book you wrote on The True Vine?"

I said Lord, I have given the notes from that book to others and they are writing books from them to which he replied, "I want you to rewrite it and title it "Strength through the Vine." I said tell me more and he said "The Test of Strength"

I know this book is going to be used of the Lord to change some lives and give deeper understanding to others and may God get the glory. A-men

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Chapter 1 Into The Garden

We begin this book with Jesus finishing his last supper with his disciples and preparing to go to the Mount of Olives to pray and await his betrayal and arrest. This place is called the Garden of Gethsemane. As he left the upper room, he made it a choice to go through the vineyard on his way to the garden. He wanted to take this opportunity to reveal some important truths to his disciples about maintaining some important relationships in their lives.

We can find this in John 15: verses 1-12.

Let's glean from these scriptures.

John 15

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. ²Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. ³Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. ⁸Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. 9As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. ¹⁰If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. ¹¹These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

¹²This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you.

As we examine the above scriptures in John, we find Jesus representing the true vine. Next, we have God the father as the heavenly vinedresser.

We read on and see the illustration of the different branches with some bearing fruit and others that are dead and headed for destruction to be burned in the fire.

Here we have the wonderful relationship between the Father, The Son and the branches.

We have the fruit which is produced through this relationship. Jesus wanted to reveal to his disciples that it is important that they keep an intimate relationship with their master. He speaks of loving other members of the body of Christ. He also speaks of maintaining the right attitude in the world around us.

We can tell a lot about someone by the way they respond to situations that may come up in their life. We need to have our priorities in place just like a gardener that has everything in its proper place for proper growth. I want my Lord to be proud of the way I look in his garden. We as God's people need to be devoted to our work. We must be a living epistle proclaiming the truth of his word to a lost and hurting world. We should live with expectation of the coming harvest which is now upon us. As Christians, we must be steady in our calling and live only to please our heavenly father.

There is no place in our Christian walk to be envious or jealous of another believer. Friend, nobody has your DNA or your finger prints therefore you are unique and nobody can do what you were called and purposed to do. We are all unique persons and nobody can do what you were chosen to do in the Lord's work.

We were predestined to be his sons and daughters at the cross. Nobody has your calling nor can they fulfill what you were chosen to do or take your place in the body. We are all different branches and not all of us are alike. I want to stop now and say that not all fruit will be the same for we all have different personalities and have come from different ethnic back grounds. We can tell a lot about the character of a person by looking at their vineyard. Is it neat and well-kept or does it need pruning and weeded out? Where I come from there is an old saying that you can tell a lot about a person by noticing how much dust in on their furniture. I have to say this does make a good point to consider.

Chapter 2 Maintain the Relationship

The relationship with our master is an important truth that Jesus maintained as an example throughout his Earthly ministry. We must have intimate prayer and devotion in God's word to maintain a healthy growth in his vineyard. This intimacy with him allows us room for growth in our fellowship with others who are in a growth cycle too. We grow with others who are experiencing God's grace and knowledge. We will discover later on in this study that our growth is in him and without him, there can be no growth.

John 1 chapter states that in him is life and that life is the light of men. The one who gives us life is also the one who gives us guidance. Because of who we are in the family of God, we have rights to approach him as sons and daughters. We have rights to the throne room to approach him day or night. We are Priests and Kings of God and are able to sit with Christ on his throne and share in his Glory. We are never alone as long as we abide in the vine (Christ). We may be in a world filled with hungry wolves but we must remember that we have a watchful guardian. Thank God, the one that sent us will also make the journey with us as our guide and guardian. It feels good to be in the safety of the sheep fold but sheep must get out and graze to put on wool. Sheep will not follow or come to anyone but their Shepard. God's word tells us in Hebrews 13:5 that He will never leave us but go with us all the way even to the end of the world. Friend, we are not making this journey without a guide. Not only is Jesus (The Vine) the giver and sustainer of my life but he is my guide.

(Romans 8:17) Because I have the Giver of life in my heart, I am made to be an heir of God and a joint heir with Jesus. Friend, we must remain in the vine and maintain a healthy relationship with our Lord and master that we may bear good fruit. We call this abiding as recorded in John the 15th chapter as keeping a close intimate relationship with our Lord.

The living God has carefully taken time to plan each part of our life in advance which I call our moment of time that we will live on this planet. In eternity past, God worked out the course that our life would take and he knows everything that will happen to us in this life span. We were created to accomplish something special that no other person on Earth can accomplish, that God may leave his signature in our life to other generations. God placed the plans for our life within us when we were born and that is why we are to delight our self in him that he may bring these hidden desires into a reality.

Everyone born on this planet is here for a divine purpose. God desires for them to discover their purpose and fulfill his plan for their life but some just want to go along with the crowd and just blend in. Beloved, you are special and were created to stand out, not blend in. Every person born on this planet regardless of gender or race was created to stand out as a unique person. They may be from a different culture or nation but they have a divine purpose. They may be a dictator ruling with an iron fist but they have a divine purpose. They may be a murderer, a rapist or may be mixed up in their gender but they have a divine purpose and if we view them as to who they are or what they have done then we have failed to see how God sees them and we may have been the very one that he would use to help them discover their purpose. We are to allow the love of God to shine through us and let them know that they are loved with an unconditional love by their creator. Friend, God allowed them to make the egg and experience life because he has a divine purpose for their existence.

Dear reader, no one has your finger prints nor do they have your DNA. You are special and were created to stand out, not blend in. Our God knows every piece of matter that is in the universe and everything seen and unseen has a purpose for its existence. We are not a mistake but were created to fulfill and accomplish something significant and make a difference in our generation. Beloved, out of all the thousands of sperm that was released, God allow you to make it and become a person. You were allowed to experience life because you have a divine purpose for being on this planet. You were created to accomplish something special that no other person on Earth can accomplish, that God may leave his signature through your life. God placed the plans for our life within us when we were born and that is why we are to delight our self in him that he may bring these hidden desires into a reality.

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God has a plan to rescue as many as possible from Satan's camp and gather together unto himself a people that he would call his family. He foreknew who would choose his plan and he also knew that the majority would reject it and be lost forever. We were predestined to become his sons and daughters at the cross. God approaches us with the preaching of the cross which encourages us to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Our accepting Jesus is the first step in his plan that was predestined for us before the foundation of the world. God demonstrated a desire to save people by his Love, his Grace and his workmanship. We start to fulfill his purpose by doing good works that glorify his name in the Earth. We must understand that God's divine plan for us is in the Spirit. We will discover in the next chapter why it is essential to abide in the vine in order to bear good fruit.

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Chapter 3 Abiding In Christ the Vine

This chapter is a powerful revelation concerning the thousands of promises that are available to the believer.

Jesus said in John 15: 7 that if we abide in him and his words abide in us, we shall ask what we will and it shall be done unto us.

Abiding in him means committing all of our life and its happenings to him. No matter what may befall us, we are to remain in him. Since we get our life from him who is life, we are to live in him and have our being. In order to abide in Christ the true vine, we need a way to get in the vine. God provided a way for us to get in and the way is paved with his precious blood. The way we get into Christ the true vine is when we trust and accept him as Lord and Savior. Many people want to use him as a spare tire and call on him only when they need him. Beloved, this is not abiding but a type of manipulation and remember that Galatians 6:7 says it all from a Holy God.

<u>7Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for</u> whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

We cannot do our own thing then run to him for protection. God's promises are to those who remain and abide in the vine. The vine is our connection to life. I read one time about how a vine would grow and every so often would produce a hard spot for a branch to grow out of. The vine would grow runners that would actually cross to make the hard place to bring forth a branch. The runner would form a cross at this junction. The runner one from the right would grow to the left thus making a cross for the branch to shoot forth.

This excites me as the branch and the vine are joined at the cross. Our wonderful creator is revealing his plan to redeem mankind which was kept secret in the God head from the foundation of the world and he is doing it through nature. We get our life nutrients from the vine. It is like the blood running through our veins. We must be connected to the vine in order to live the abundant life as recorded in John 10 verses 9-10.

Jesus said that he came to give us life and that more abundantly. I have listed these scriptures for you below and ask that you please read carefully and get them in your spirit.

⁹I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have <u>life</u>, and that they might have <u>life</u>, and that they might have it more <u>abundantly</u>.

We need the spiritual connection to the vine. If a branch is cut off, the vine still lives because the life is in the vine. John 14th chapter records our Lord instructing us to abide in his Love. If we are abiding in his love then we are not walking in darkness but get fresh revelation and direction for each day we are blessed to live. If we are abiding in him and we get into trouble we can claim his promise in Psalms 91:14-15 that he will be with us in trouble. Yes, Friend, his promises are to those who abide in him the true vine.

¹⁴ "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him;

I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

¹⁵ He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble,

I will deliver him and honor him.

Chapter 4 Are We Bearing Fruit

We read in John 15th chapter that the true vine is the only way to bear fruit. Since the branch gets its life from the vine, it is dependent upon the vine for its existence. We read in the earlier chapter that life originates in the vine and not the branches. If we cut the branches off, the vine still lives.

Our loving God sent his son Jesus from heaven to be the true vine.

There must be a connection between the branch and the vine for the branch to live.

We learned in the earlier chapter that the vine will form a knot to grow a branch.

The branch and the vine are joined at this knot. This knot is a union of life to get the nutrients to the branch that it can bear fruit. To bear fruit, the branch must get all of its strength from the vine. The branch cannot grow fruit unless it is properly connected to the vine which is its life. This is why Jesus wanted to reveal these truths to his disciples because it is essential that they keep a right relationship with God and their fellow servants. We are made to partake of his glory when we abide in the vine.

The vine is our source of life that gives us what we need to bear fruit. Bearing fruit is what our Christian life is all about. It is why we are saved that we may be a light in a lost and dark world. If we love the Lord and have his love for souls, we will bear fruit.

When I accepted Christ into my life, his Spirit began a work of grace in me and I became under new management.

I am no longer my own but have been bought with a great price. God's Spirit is now at work producing his character in my life. Character is a manifestation of our nature. Our character is reflected in what we say and do. I am so happy that God has placed his spirit within me and is doing a work of regeneration in my character and my personality. God's character is his standard of holiness. God is loving, kind, affectionate, caring, and willing to sympathize with us in our weaknesses.

Real Christians bear fruit. Jesus said in John 15: 16 that we did not choose him but he chose us and that we should go out and bear fruit and that our fruit should remain. We need to be obedient to the call of God on our life and bear fruit. The call should be the driving force of our life and should be the standard which keeps us in line with God's word.

We must understand that God's divine plan for us is in the Spirit and his Holy Spirit is in us enforcing this plan as Spiritual law. God's Spirit is the enforcer of Spiritual law.

If we maintain an intimate relationship with him, He will take charge and control of the circumstances that surround us and cause natural law to be for or against us. It would benefit us to spend some time in the class room of God's wisdom and allow her to teach us the things of the spirit. We will soon discover that God had a plan before he created the first man and in that plan Christ would come in the fullness of time and pay the ransom price for the sins of mankind because the scriptures teach that the Lamb of God was slain before the foundation of the world. We will also discover that the plan for every life that would be born was downloaded into what we call time for again the scriptures teach that God planned our end before our beginning to fulfill his purpose and will. It is when we abide in the vine that the Spirit of God that is armed with the knowledge of this plan can start working in us to bring us to a good end.

Chapter 5

Here Come the Trials

We all sometimes go through a phase in our life when we get over loaded and make mistakes which have cost us dearly. I have made my share how about you? Did we begin our downfall by not managing our time wisely and allowing others to manipulate us to the point that we give up on what we are doing and do for them?

Let's face it, we became guilty of allowing circumstances to overpower us and because we were not able to think properly, we began to act on impulse and make decisions without counting the cost. This dear reader is why we need a heavenly gardener. Several years ago, I remember reading a wonderful book I think by Dr. David Wilkinson about the true vine. In this book there was a chapter that really settled in my spirit about a branch that had got blown off the vine during a storm. The vinedresser would take the branch and wash the mud off of it with soap and water then place it on the trestle to get some sun light. I instantly remember the Holy Scriptures in James 1: 21 telling us To receive the engrafted word of God with meekness which is able to save our soul. I remember the word stating in Ephesians 5:26 that the church was cleansed by the washing of water by the word.

The vinedresser did not cut the branch off that was lying in the mud but washed it off and placed back on the trestle. Sometimes we need our heavenly vinedresser to cut some of our foliage back that our fruit may get some sunlight. Not all branches are alike and not all fruit will be the same but our heavenly vinedresser knows everything about us and he also knows what his plan is for our life.

If our precious Lord allowed us to go our own way and do our own thing, we would no longer be useful to him or ourselves. In this state, we would grow wild and careless and our foliage would choke out our fruit and cause it to die. Sometimes, a branch needs to be pruned that it may have room to bear more fruit. Thank God for a God that loves us this much that he is willing to work with us on a personal level.

God knows what we are capable of and he will prune us when we need it. He said in his word in Hebrews 12:6 that he chastens or corrects those whom he loves. Let us go on to perfection and remember that we did not start the work of grace in our heart and since we are not the one that started it, we are dependent upon him who did to finish the work and all we need to do is become willing vessels in the masters hand. Anything can go downstream but let us be one that abides in the vine and allow his life giving virtue to flow through us that we not become one of the dead branches who will not stay connected to the vine and their only end is destruction and be burned in the fire.

Chapter 6

Is your Vineyard For-Sale

John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

The vineyard in John 15 is Jesus.

1 Kings 21:2 So Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, "Give me your vineyard, that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near, next to my house; and for it I will give you a vineyard better than it. Or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its worth in money."

Here we see that the vineyard in 1st Kings 21 is talking about Naboth being the owner of the vineyard positioned next to the palace.

In 1 Kings 21, Ahab approached Naboth asking him for his vineyard by saying, "give me", that vineyard that is part of his lineage blessings. Naboth replied to Ahab by saying "I will not give you my vineyard." Ahab even suggested to buy, but Naboth canceled the purchase and said no he could not trade his Vineyard for another type of vineyard. In the story, Naboth was later setup by Ahab's wife Jezebel and killed for the vineyard.

We can look at another biblical character where we see a purchase for vineyard? Let's review the transaction between Judas and Priests in the betrayal of Jesus? The Priests offered Judas 30 shackles of silver (the price of a female slave) which Judas received and he willingly gave Christ over to the Priests. Afterward Judas realized what he had done and hung himself for his treacherous actions.

The bottom line that we can glean from these stories is to bring these teachings down to apply what God is saying to us in our current day? The vineyard is now living in us! Christ in us the hope of Glory! You never have to give your inheritance in exchange for something that looks good or appears to be a better position? Satan approached Jesus in the wilderness to tempt him with the same thing. Look at Matthew 4:8-10. The blessing is, Christ is the totality of it all and he lives in the heart of his people.

The exchange now required is our Faith.

We receive God's pardon for our sins and give our life to him. Our life is no longer our own but Christ has purchased us as a purchased possession in giving his life a ransom for many. The inward wisdom living on the inside of the heart of the believer will give utterance for specific blessings.

The vineyard could often be found on a hillside a peak, or sometimes it would be in a terraced location. A hedge surrounded the vineyard or a stony wall to keep out destructive animals and a tower was erected for the watchman. A press was constructed and a large vat was hewn out of stone. Laborers were hired to work in the vineyard for it was necessary to prune it and allow the sun to give it what it needs and if it is too thick then some of the leaves may not get the proper sunlight for them to grow. The laborers were to dig about it and pull up the weeds that it would have good fertile ground in which to grow. Let's reflect upon why naboth said he could not sell his vineyard?

Naboth was a good upstanding citizen whose ancestors had occupied the same land for many generations before him. The land contained a vineyard, which happened to be just outside the palace walls of King Ahab. The king wanted to plant an herb garden and his search for a plot of ground he noticed Naboth's vineyard. Naboth's vineyard was a very desirable piece of ground for what the king wanted. The longing for Naboth's vineyard just would not go away. The yearning became more overwhelming by the moment. King Ahab then approached Naboth with what might seem to some a reasonable offer for the land Naboth owned. However, this land was inherited and Naboth was the protector as well as possessor. This ancestral possession with the Lord as his witness caused Naboth to shun King Ahab's offer. Naboth said it's not for sale! In actuality the law forbade the selling of the land.

This land could not be sold for the law stated the selling of the land which was divided to certain families could not be consummated because the land was God's land entrusted to Naboth. Naboth was exactly correct in refusing the king's office on the basis of two things. Legally he could not sell and spiritually he could not sell. King Ahab not willing to use force attempted to negotiate a fair value either in money or better land for Naboth's vineyard. Naboth would have been a fool to turn down such an offer some might say but Naboth must obey God rather than man thus he says "Not for sale!"
The only reason someone sells what they have is because they are lazy and they allowed it to run down! When you let your prayer life fall apart, what happens?

What is taking place trough neglect when you lose your vision and your Sunday school class starts falling apart, your standards are let down and convictions fall short?

What happens when purity falls short, soul winning is no longer appealing and your walk with God gets distant?

God's will is no longer important in your life and you are becoming complacent with the state you are in?

This is the beginning of apostasy and in this state of being you are saying you are ready to sell!

The "For Sale" sign says a lot.

It says you are lazy!

No wonder your vineyard has a "For Sale" sign on it. You never work your prayer life nor do you maintain your walk with God and it will not be long before you put a "For Sale" sign up. I tell you right now that my vineyard is not for sale. You say Jerry what are you talking about?

I am glad you asked.

Let's look at the deep side of this if you don't mind? A vineyard produces grapes and grapes produce wine. Ahab wanted to plant a garden and in that soil the only thing that would grow would be cabbage and it stinks when cooked?

A vineyard produces wine and it makes people happy! Do you get where I am going?

The wine represents the spirit of God and it makes me happy.

My relationship with him is like no other. It is not based on material things or friendships and not even relationships.

Friend it is much more than that oh yes, it is a precious friendship with my creator and the time spent in intimacy with him makes me happy as I feel the surge of his life flowing through my veins giving me strength to make it another day knowing that he has a purpose for my being on this planet and discovering that purpose and reading his word gives me hope. I tell you it is a blessed hope that maketh not ashamed. He took away my sin and my shame oh yes he gave me a new life and it is not for sale. I can close my eyes in sleep at night and know everything between me my Lord is alright. I did not mean to preach but as you can see, I am getting happy just thinking about the old miserable life that I was rescued from when I accepted him into my life to live his life through me. I am not for sale!

Hollywood tried above four years ago to give me my own reality TV show?

Some said I should have taken it but I did not feel right and I informed them I am not for

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sale. They had discovered my videos on youtube as a trucker evangelist wearing my Indiana Jones hat and thought they could make money off of my being a trucker evangelist but they wanted to write the script.

Listen what I do and have done for many vears wearing that hat feeding and clothing people in the inner cities facing and winning the respect of the gangs and street people is no game. Several times, I have had to fight physically to win their trust. Later, when they found out that I was a famous man of God and after being with them for many years, listen, I could not take enough bibles to them. I sometimes would go 12 years before informing them who I was especially in Atlanta, Georgia. You are not going to go in preaching to those people without winning their respect. They killed the one before me and shot at the one before him.

I made a friend of one that became like a daddy to me and for 12 years they saw me care for this old man that was of another race.

I would go under the bridges where they lived and go with them in abandoned houses. Several times I would find myself in a bad predicament but God always gave me protection. This is why my vineyard is not for sale period.

Dear reader this can be likened to a man that will remodel his house, plow his fields, landscape the yard, paint, and fix up the outside of the house. This man has taken pride in his work and invested in something that is more valuable to him than life itself. The man who stands with sweat dripping off of his brow from laboring to provide for his family will not sell!

Someone may approach him wanting to trade something of greater value but will always hear the answer "I am not interested and my investment is not For Sale!"

Chapter 7 Know the Right Password

This book is about abiding in the vine (Jesus) and reveals how God desires us to bring forth fruit (fruit of the spirit) as spoken of in John 15:16.

Jhn 15;16"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

To give this chapter justice we need to expound on the message this book is attempting to reveal and to discover this message we need to go to John 16:23? Remember, Jesus is on his way to the garden of gethsemane to pray. He had just finish his last supper with his disciples in the upper room. Judas has already left to betray him for thirty pieces of silver. To get to the garden he had to go through the vineyard and he stops

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in the vineyard to instill a spiritual message to his disciples. He had been with them for over three years. These men had watched him perform mighty miracles including being able to walk on water. They also had been used of God to cast out devils and perform miracles. Now the time has come that he must fulfill all things and be offered up as a sacrifice for the sins of his greatest creation. (man) What will he tell them and what will he leave with them?

John 16:23²³ And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

²⁴ Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

He is telling them that his time is near and they have always had him with them. He has been their shield and guide. He has been the one that has prayed all night and sought the Father on their behalf. They have never approached the Father but now he is delegating to them the authority that was delegated unto him to approach God.

He is informing them that now they can approach the Father and ask anything in his name and it shall be granted.

Jesus said in John 15: 7 that if we abide in him and his words abide in us, we shall ask what we will and it shall be done unto us.

Abiding in him means committing all of our life to him and trusting him to live his life through us that we may fulfill his purpose and call upon our life. He is giving his disciples and the church he is preparing the right as power of attorney to use his name to approach God. Beloved, Jesus is the only name God will recognize that will bring answers from the throne.

Religions all over the world bow to some graven image that cannot talk or create life and make an attempt to offer something that will bring them a blessing? Beloved, what do I do if I am in a service and someone need a healing or a miracle and I am being looked at by the congregation?

They know God has used me in miracles before but what will happen if I call on one of the pagan Gods?

Will anything happen?

What if I say in the name of Jerry will anything happen? What if I call upon the name of Buddha or one of the prophets? Oh beloved but what if I call upon the name that is above every name that is named and causes Angels to come to attention while demons to tremble?

I tell you beloved that God will honor that name and if they have faith and do not harbor un-forgiveness or anything in their life that would stop the flow of God, the resurrection power of God will touch them and they will be made whole. God does not hold back on us as some would think but his word says it is his good pleasure to give his children the kingdom but you have to live and abide in the right kingdom. When we maintain a healthy prayer life and keep our intimacy with God, we can approach his throne and you his password (Jesus) and receive what we ask for.

We have a blessing when we use that name for God raised him up and made him Lord and Christ and gave him a name above every name that is named not only in this world but the world to come. God established an everlasting covenant with his Son and his word says that He (Jesus) ever liveth to make intercession for us. God raised him up and gave him to be the head over all things to the church which is his body (Study Ephesians chapters 1 and 3) Use the right password with a clean consecrated life and watch God perform mighty works through you. You do not have to have a ministers calling on your life to heal the sick? Christ delegated that authority to his church but you have to live in the right kingdom and use the right password.

The word says that God has translated us out of the kingdom of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son! Friend, the weakness is in the fallen kingdom where Adam sold us out. The enemy has power in that kingdom but we are not in that kingdom. Luke 22 I think says something like "As my Father hath appointed unto me a kingdom, I appoint one unto you." I'll close with a test that came my way that could have ended my driving career?

I was just finishing my exam at my eye doctor when he informed me that the tests he had just run revealed that I had beginning stages of Glaucoma? What?

Here I have been driving a truck preaching all over the country on radio stations and TV stations including large Christian networks. My books are in most countries throughout the world and for many years I have been known as Guardian Angel The Trucker Evangelist and is that coming to an end?

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I don't think so? I looked at that doctor and informed him I do not and will not accept that diagnosis. He said all the test show different to which I replied that is just an illusion. I then called out God's password and began to preach! I preached to him stating that I don't live in that kingdom where that mess is. I said that mess is in the fallen kingdom and I don't live there. Suddenly, the power of God came upon me as I felt his spirit speaking through my lips that my bible says I have been translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of his dear Son. I said doc that mess cannot live in my kingdom and I preached out of his office into the hallway and was preaching and shaking hands with the other patients. Really, I believe I was preaching to the devil but they got me calmed down and the good doctor informed me that he had the same machines at his office near the hospital and asked if I would be there the next morning to be tested again? I said, "Ok doc, I'll be there but you will not find anything?" The next morning I was not surprised when a young doctor came into my room and sat beside me with a puzzled look on his face and said, "Jerry, I do not understand this?" He said, "All my test yesterday showed you had stages of Glaucoma but it is not showing up today." I said "Doctor, it's who you know and I have witnesses the dead get up through prayer and begin pulling their tubes out. I have had God use me all over the country in miracle ministry that has doctors like you shaking their heads.

The good doctor allowed me to pray for him and I led him to God's password?

Friend this is no game or magical formula, but a growing fellowship and intimacy with a wonderful father that loves to honor the atoning finished work of his Son. Jesus suffered that awful death and became a curse including going to hell in our place to pay the sin penalty of death and separation from a Holy God.

It was there in hell that the wrath of God was satisfied and he signed his pardon declaring the sin debt against all mankind had been paid in full.

He that knew no sin was made sin for us that we might become the righteous of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

When we accept the plan of salvation, we become a part of the family of God. Yes he sends the Spirit of his son into our hearts crying Abba Father.

God looks at us through his Son and when we call upon his name the power of God will be on display?

Chapter 8 The Test of Strength

This is the last chapter and the reason for me to revise this book which I published several years ago. This is the word God gave me when he came in my truck and asked me to get out the notes and rewrite this book.

Dear reader, somebody is going to feel the power of God surge through their entire body for this came from God and he wants it out. This entire book is saturated with God's Spirit giving us a deeper revelation of the blessings that are ours when we abide in the vine.

We get our strength when we stay connected to the vine. (Jesus) In this chapter we will expound on the strength that is available to us when we abide in him. I often think of tooth paste when I think about trials that squeeze us? Friend what comes out when someone you trusted turns and betrays (Squeezes) you?

What do you do when you are exhausted from the trials and want to throw in the towel but something inside starts moving in you and you here the verse below rising up in your spirit?

Read Isaiah 40:30-31

³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

³¹But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Beloved, what happens when Christian faint? Everyone gets tired however some give in to the trials and give up. What do we do when we run low on faith and allow fear to creep in? If we put our heart and mind into the work of the Lord, we are going to get tired.

There is a vast difference in being tired and being tired of the work? Have you ever been in this place and feel lonely and feel like you have failed God especially when you have not reached your goals?

What happens when we run out of prayer and what got us to this place? Did somebody we had confidence in abandon us as if we do not exist?

I have some good news!

We need to grab hold of the truths of this powerful scripture and apply it to our walk with God. When the sailors of old would find themselves in the midst of a storm they would tie themselves to the huge mast of the ship that held the sail to keep from being washed overboard? I believe there is a lesson to be learned here don't you?

First, we need to realize that we are not alone and not only is our God willing to rescue us but he is also desires to restore us that we may be an influence and testimony to others.

God knows the plans he has for you and he also prepared the path to get you where you need to be and yes he reviewed your life before he allowed you to be born on his planet.

Beloved, we might think he is slow but God has a way of getting us where we need to be on time. His utmost desire is to develop character in his children and he does this through trials that sometimes shake us to the core. He is breaking our strong stubborn will that we will realize we need him and we need to be connected to the vine. Jesus the vine is our source of deliverance.

It's in him the vine that we find our strength and we must realize that God has a set time to deliver us however we must abide in him. I can show you that God had to wait on his own timing before he could bring a flood and bring correction to his creation? What, yes, God repented that he had made man and had a plan to bring a flood and kill every living thing upon the earth.

God had to wait on Noah to be born that would find favor in his eyes and his name means rest?

Romans 8:28 says that all things work together to them that love God to them that are the called according to his purpose.

What he is saying is that I planned your life and I planned your end before your beginning but I let you choose the path. Beloved, you may be like Abraham and get a Son to help God out? We all have a past and you may get a son out of wedlock or a drug habit but that's ok. God will allow you to bring them with you on your journey because he knows where you are going and if he allowed you to get there too early, you would not be mature enough to fulfill your purpose.

Dear friend. Your purpose is what is going to get you to your destiny but what do we do when we feel like we do not have any strength left? I am glad you asked because now that we learned that God is an on time God we need to see what he is saying in this verse. Timing is everything with God and we must have patience and trust him to get us through the hard times that are sure to come. Let's look at the scripture and glean from its message.

³¹But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

What is God saying I these scriptures and how can we apply it to enrich our life? We discovered that God does not get in a hurry because he has a plan for our life. His Spirit that resides within us and connects us to the vine is armed with the plan for our life.

What does he mean when he states in his word that there is a way for us to renew our strength that we can run and not be weary and walk and not faint?

Friend he is simply saying, stay connected to the vine by giving ourselves to prayer and reading his word then we can exchange our mere human strength for his.

There is an exchange taking place on the inside of us as his Spirit quickens his word which produces faith giving us power to love when we are not loved, power to forgive when someone has done us wrong and a mind with wisdom to know that one can chase a thousand and two ten thousand.

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This lets us know that because of the wisdom of God, we are ten times stronger than our enemy or any trial he can throw our way because the vine will let us know that because of him and our place in him, Isaiah 54:17 shouts out to wait and trust in God for no weapon formed against us shall not prosper! He is the I Am God which means anything that we need we can find if we abide in him.

Many times, I have had to trust in him when I had nothing else to turn to and he always came to my rescue.

What about you?

I have had to preach to the devil and remind him that what I am going through according to God's word will pass but where he is headed and what he is facing cannot be altered. I also remind him that one day all creation will see him stripped and appear as a weakling as they ask "Is this the one that troubled the nations?"

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With the closing of this chapter let us again read the scripture and catch the meaning of mounting up as Eagles? The Eagle is known to be the highest flying bird and it is capable of soaring above the storm. It is also the only creature that has the ability to renew itself and become like it was when it was young. It does this by flying to its rock and find a pebble to sharpen its beak that it may pull all its feathers out and grow new ones in their place. They call this the eagles molting period.

The Eagle is the most majestic bird in the sky, but something happens to all Eagles at least once in their lifetime, they molt. In the life of every Eagle, they will go through a molting process that can bring with it a great sense of depression? This is a wilderness experience that all eagles will face. Certain eagles live for about 30 years or more but then they begin to lose their feathers.

Their beak and claws begin to alter as well and become weak. During this time, the eagle will walk like a turkey and it has no strength to fly.

The molting eagle finds himself in the valley, unable to fly, with its feathers falling out. They lose their ability to see, as well, their vision weakens during this time.

Calcium builds up on their beaks and they are unable to hold their head up. They lose their desire to eat, they only eat fresh meat and they have no strength to hunt.

During this time some have observed through binoculars other eagles sitting on a branch with a fresh kill. It has been observed that before they can eat their food they begin to actually cry. They are remembering what they went through and they take to the air to fly to the valley where the other eagles are going through this horrible molting period. They soon realize that they are not alone for others are flying to that valley and dropping food to the ones going through this "molting" stage.

It is always the older eagles that have survived this experience and know what the "molting" eagle is going through that is flying above crying eat little eagle eat and fly to your rock.

The eagle has its special place in a mountain range where the sun can shine directly on them, and they will lie on a rock and bathe in the sun. They have a food source nearby and they wait on their feathers to grow back out. After their new feathers have grown back they must wait on their body to produce the oil to make them weatherproof. Once they have spread the oil through their feathers they become new again just like they were in their younger days.

God says in his word I believe it is Psalms 103 that he will restore our life from destruction and crown us with loving kindness and tender mercy. It goes on to say that he will satisfy our mouth with good things that our youth would be restored like the eagles.

Beloved, the Lord confirmed my calling into the miracle ministry by a scripture found in several books throughout the bible but Ill list the one in Mark the third chapter for you to get an idea of why this means so much to me and is the foundation of God's ministry.

It is the scripture referring to the man with the withered hand. I will give you some insight that this scripture has been referred to in the past by many powerful men of God as that concerning a miracle ministry and that is why it is and has always been so special to me.

Mark 3:1-5 1 And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. 2 And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him. 3 And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth. 4 And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace. 5 And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man. Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

Beloved, we have learned from experience that it is impossible for us to go back and recover the (years) time that the enemy and our poor choices have taken from us however if we were able to go back and regain these years we would also have the things that caused us to fall which could include positions, relationships and yes failed marriages.

This is not much encouragement is it?

Don't go anywhere because I have some good news!

We find in the book of Joel chapter 2 verse 25 that God speaks through his prophet that he is able to **restore** the (**Time**) years that the locust (Sin) hath eaten and goes on to name the **cankerworm**, the **caterpillar** and the **palmerworm**.

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These in itself would give us some valuable insight to what indulging in sin and making poor choices can bring our way. WE also find in Marks gospel chapter 3 that Jesus himself used the word **restored**.

Here Christ is healing the man with the withered hand. This man was in the temple (Church) and had a hand that was deformed and withered. Jesus told him to stretch forth his hand but did not tell him which hand to stretch forth. All too often we want to give God what we think is our good hand instead of admitting our weaknesses before an all seeing and all wise God. What we glean from this is if we stretch forth which would mean to press forward in our Christian walk then God is able to go back and **recover** the years that we think we have lost. Beloved, God can go back and fix our broken dreams whether it be failed relationships and yes even failed marriages. Oh yes dear reader and he is also to restore (**Restructure**) (**Fix**) what we lost and give us the strength, love and, determination to start these relationships including failed marriages without the mess that caused them to fail. Now this is a place to cry, rejoice and thank the Living God that he is able to restructure us and cause us to be a blessing to those around us but he can only accomplish this if we maintain a good abiding relationship in the vine.

My Conclusion

Church, it is time to wake up to the call and task upon us and strip ourselves from the love of this world and the love of self. Yes, and turn to the Lord with our whole heart with fasting and our prayers being saturated with our tears until we hear from heaven. Let us remember that our view of the Living God will affect our view of our fellow man and as the word says, "How can we say we love God whom we have not seen and hate our brother whom we have seen who is made in his image and likeness?

Dear reader, Jesus is the doorway to God and Jesus had already defeated Satan. God's church shares the same authority of Jesus.

Colo. 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church; who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

We can look at our problems through God or we can look at God through our problem? Let's exchange our faith for his, trust him and soar?

<u>Christ is the risen Head of the church, and</u> <u>its members are subject to him. In the name of</u> <u>Jesus, we can break Satan's hold over us</u> <u>because we are under a new authority.</u>

Ephesians1:21-23

21Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world but also in that which is to come.22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

We discover in the verses above that Jesus is the head of the body which is the church. We as the church of Jesus Christ are under the authority of Jesus. Because we have surrendered our life to the lordship of Jesus Christ, we are no longer under the authority or rule of Satan. Because we live a surrendered life, we are not under the control of superstitions, curses, or charms. Satan is the god of this world but we are no longer under his authority or control. We find in verse 21 of Ephesians that all things are speaking of the various orders of angels, demons and powers. In verse 22, we can see clearly that Paul is not speaking of church affiliation. If we are abiding in Christ the true vine, we are under new management and leadership.

We are not our own but a purchased possession and we are under the Government and Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus has already defeated Satan and has been delegated all authority over him and the kingdom of darkness.

We as the church which is his body share that same delegated authority that Jesus has. We are the body of Christ and we follow the head. Ephesians 1st Chapter says that God hath given him (Jesus) to be the head over all things to the church which is his body.

The body cannot go in one direction, and the head in another direction. God's church is not defeated or powerless. There might be some unbelievers gathered in a local church body that are not members of the body of Christ but when Christ is speaking of his body on earth, he is referring to those born again believers that have accepted him as Lord and Savior. Paul in this scripture is not

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talking about the local church or a denomination that we see today but he is speaking concerning all born again believers that have accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior. No matter what their race or gender and creed may be or what part of the world they are from, if they have accepted Christ they are my brothers and sisters in the Lord.

The bottom line and the key to have and exercise spiritual authority in our lives is not head knowledge but heart knowledge in understanding and knowing the word of God and the Authority of Christ and abiding with a thriving relationship in the vine.



Brendon Stewart

"Jerry Hulse is a fantastic writer and great Man of God, You will love this book!"



Chief Apostle David AA Mungo

Thank God for a man that knows that you have to have a heartfelt desire for revival in order to have revival. It's a book that's written from the heart to the heart. Chief Apostle David A A Mungo, Ph.D. - Founder and Presiding Episcopate of the Guiding Light Int'l Christian Fellowship, Inc., and Intensive Care Ministries, International Inc.



Jerry thanks for praying for me at Health South 21 years ago. You didn't know it but I was at deaths door and JESUS CHRIST brought me back and I'm still going PRAISE HIS NAME. Tommy Browder_____

Jerry Hulse prophesied over me years ago how God was going to use me. It's happened and happening! He has been an encouragement to me and my family. I believe he has a heart for God, the people and ministry! Matthew Browder

Brother Jerry W. Hulse is one man I can really thank God for. I have known him for about 2 years. I have found him to be a man of faith and he lives his life by faith. If I had to pick someone to be on my team, I would surely pick Brother Jerry Hulse. Congratulations my friend, Elder James Lockhart KROVFM RADIO (<u>KROVFM.COM</u>) 2108848744 This book is a God divine voice of God's tool to edify, instruct and teach the people of God. It's a must eat so get your aprons, knife, fork, spoons, milk. Let us all eat! Godz Messenger



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To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Evangelist Barbara Pittman, host of "Jesus In The Morning Radio Show." I am writing this correspondence to endorse Evangelist Jerry W. Hulse as a Preacher and Author.

Jerry has been a guest on Jesus in the Morning radio talk show, which broadcasts internationally every week. The listener's response was great. I support Evangelist Jerry W. Hulse by sharing his works as an author and evangelist throughout the country and internationally while as a guest on Jesus in the Morning Radio Talk Show. Regards,

Barbara Pittman

David A A Mungo



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Regards, Barbara Pittman