

“Celebration Warfare”

By Mrs. Sojourner

What are two of the keys to winning in spiritual warfare? King Jehoshaphat had these keys. An enemy came against him and he first, inquired of the Lord. He did not do this alone, but had all of Judah do this also. The Lord answered him through a prophet:

... Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the LORD says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's. Tomorrow march down against them. They will be climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the gorge in the Desert of Jeruel. You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the LORD will give you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the LORD will be with you.' ^{2 Chron. 20:15b-17 NIV}

The King of Judah honored God and God gave him precise instructions on how to handle the challenge. But this wise king sought to go even further and honor God ahead of time for the work he would



do in winning the battle.

Early in the morning . . . As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said . . . Have faith in the LORD your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful." After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the LORD and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying: "Give thanks to the LORD, for his love endures forever." As they began to sing and praise, the LORD set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated. ^{2 Chron. 20:20-22 NIV}

Notes:

[a]

Jehoshaphat sent people out celebrating God's victory before he saw it! The Bible makes it clear that Jesus won the victory, so let us seek God on how to proceed, then celebrate the victory before we see it. God will respond mightily!

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...with The Sojourner

“Grace, Peace, And You!” (Teaching Sketch)

Galatians 1:1-10 (NIV)

Jesus did not abandon those who accepted who he is--Believers. Believers are those who believe in, trust in, rely on, and do the works to which they have been called/sent/assigned.



Paul, an Apostle

The Apostle Paul makes it crystal clear in our scripture what he is in the Body of Christ and from where he derives his power, both authority power and power to do miracles.

¹Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—

Not Alone

Paul makes it known that he is not alone but that there are a number of brothers there with him in his greeting to the Church at Galatia.

Today, there is often much criticism of men of God trav-

eling with an entourage of people, but as one can see from his reference here there were some with him. He does not say how many brothers are with him but it is reasonable to believe that the number was large enough that it would have been difficult to name them all.

Notes:

[1]

Believers must not expect only the Five Fold^[a] to be responsible for spreading the Gospel.

The Blessing

Paul starts out with a blessing to those in Galatia who are of the church there. It would be quite easy to simply skip over these words as just niceties. Paul is delivering the substance of the spiritual to them on God's behalf.

³Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Paul is speaking a blessing of grace and peace! He is affirming salvation and its benefits to those who believe!

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Scripture:

Galatians 1:1-10 (NIV)

Galatians 1

¹Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— ²and all the brothers with me, To the churches in Galatia: ³Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

No Other Gospel

⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be

[a]

eternally condemned! ⁹As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!

¹⁰Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Sojourners dwell in the peace of God and the peace of God dwells in them.



“Grace, Peace, And You!” (Teaching Sketch)

Galatians 1:1-10 (NIV)

If a person does not understand the substance of this grace and peace (nothing missing nothing broken) it is possible they may have never received Christ as Lord and Savior!

God of Rescue

Paul reminds them that the true God is the God of rescue!

⁴who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

Only One Gospel

Paul makes it clear they are the recipients of the one true Gospel. He is amazed at how easily some are led off into something other than the Gospel of Grace.

Follow God

The choice is to follow God or man. Do not confuse and therefore miss the grace shown by God in the gift of the Five Fold to the body but be certain all you follow aligns with the scripture. Many challenges to the truth are coming. We have the light. Walk in it!

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship**
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during “Praise & Worship” (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

