

THE MINISTRY LETTER 2019 ISSUE 8

To all those who are truly seeking first the Kingdom - those who love God with all of their heart:

IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE FOR EVERY CHILD OF GOD TO DILIGENTLY "MAINTAIN" A SENSITIVE HEART

....*"And I will give them one heart [a new heart] and I will put a new spirit within them; and I will take the stony [unnaturally hardened] heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh [sensitive and responsive to the touch of their God], [Ezek. 18:31; 36:26; II Cor. 3:3.] That they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances, and do them. And they shall be My people, and I will be their God".... Ezekiel 11:19-20 The Amplified Translation*

We need to be a people who are sensitive to the things of God - a people who "know" when to act and when to speak. BUT, first, we must have a "revelation" of the Father's Will - for revelation knowledge "abiding" in the heart of the Christian is the key to success in this final hour. There are many counterfeits to the "knowledge of God" and His Will, and there are also many, many counterfeits that appear as "good works" but, in reality, "self" and the seeking after self-glory is still the root motivation.

Therefore, it is of the utmost importance for every child of God to diligently "maintain" a sensitive heart because it is ONLY a sensitive heart that produces a continued "yieldedness" to the Father *[a "flexibility" that operates in every facet of their life and ministry and a willingness to adjust in any given moment to the Will of God]* at ALL cost to themselves.

IT IS A DANGEROUS TIME IN THESE DAYS FOR ALL THOSE WHO CONTINUALLY PRACTICE THE "ART" OF MENTAL ASCENSION TO THE WORD OF GOD

"mental ascension" - the pursuit of the knowledge of God and His Word *[Will]* in the strength of one's own understanding *[intellect]*;

....*"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts".... Isaiah 55:8-9 NASB*

....*"The entrance and unfolding of Your words give light; their unfolding gives understanding [discernment and comprehension]".... Psalms 119:130 The Amplified Translation*

....*"Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know, recognize, and acknowledge Him, and He will direct and make straight and plain your paths".... Proverbs 3:5-6*

The Amplified Translation

If one "mentally" ascends [*attempts to do it in their own strength and understanding*] to the command to give the Word of God preeminence in their life THEN, through their stubbornness and rebellion, they never "allow" the Word of God to enter their heart - and, thus, they continually live an existence far below the place of walking in an "abiding" revelation of the Father's Will and purpose. It is truly a dangerous time in these days for all those who continually practice the "art" of mental ascension to the Word of God - and the doubt, unbelief and self-effort that are fuelled by it.

For if the child of God continues to hold to the "lower life" [*psuche: soul-life*] then they will be found in a position wherein their heart is growing harder and harder with each passing day - and they will not even be conscious of it! The tragedy of this whole scenario is that the harder their heart becomes the further they end up positioning themselves from the place [*the "inner chamber"*] wherein the Word is able to enter into their heart and, thus, there is a "spiralling" effect - leading them deeper and deeper into darkness.

ONCE THE WORD OF GOD TRULY ENTERS ONE'S HEART IT IS LIKE ENTERING ONE'S BLOODSTREAM

....*"Submit therefore to God [in obedience]. Resist the devil [from the position of faith in a revelation of the Father's Word/Will] and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you".... James 4:7-8 NASB*

The key to the fulfilment of the true Christian life [*and the bearing of maximum fruit for the Church and the Kingdom*] in this final hour is predicated upon one thing - and one thing alone - and that is drawing near to the Father and His Word. If one truly draws near to God [*first, in their heart*] THEN He will lead that child into that place of perfect fellowship with Him. It is ONLY from this place of intimate fellowship that the Word of God is truly given "entrance" into one's heart. Some have "memorized" large portions of scripture and are able to quote scriptures left and right, but the key is: has that Word "entered" their heart? Once the Word of God truly enters one's heart it is like entering one's bloodstream, because it THEN becomes a spontaneous empowerment in the life of the true believer.

THE DAY HAS COME WHEREIN WE CAN NO LONGER BE CHRISTIANS WHO ARE "MOVED" BY WHAT WE HEAR OR SEE OR FEEL OR THINK

....*"for we walk by faith [in a revelation of God's Word {Will}], not by sight".... 2 Corinthians 5:7 NASB*

The day has come wherein we can no longer be "Christians" who are "moved" by what we hear or see or feel or think. We must be a people who refuse to allow ourselves to be "influenced" [*swayed*] by anything [*or anyone*] that is apart from the "revealed" knowledge of God's Word [*Will*]! If the child of God remains in a position wherein they are influenced first

and foremost in their soul *[mind-will-emotions]* then they shall surely be held captive by the Enemy *[through fear and pride]* - and the reality of the situation is that, through a spirit of compulsion, Satan will be enabled to control them - particularly in times of sudden crisis! Because of this "maintaining" of a desire to lean upon their "own" understanding *[through self-desire - and the self-agenda that is its spontaneous fruit]* there will always be something in them that causes them to think *[believe]* that "they" can produce true *[acceptable]* ministry for the Lord - but that can NEVER happen apart from a heart that is "wholly" given to His highest purposes!

THE VORTEX OF DEEP DARKNESS

...."Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever".... 1 John 2:15-17 NASB

...."For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you".... Isaiah 60:2 NASB

...."So you will again distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him. For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall ".... Malachi 3:18-4:2 NASB

In this last hour, there are "vats" of deep darkness being poured out through the various "spirits of anti-christ" *[both a pre-cursor and counterfeit of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the true Light]* upon those in the world and, thus, those people of God who still choose to "maintain" a form of heart-fellowship with the world will be sucked into that vortex of deep darkness.

Because of these things, the "fruit" of their ministry will remain rooted in selfishness, self-effort and "accomplishment" with a view to self-glory *[the honour and praises of men]* - all those things being fuelled by a "love" of *[strong desire for]* the world and its ways. The simple - yet absolute - truth of the matter is that we need to be a people who love the Lord our God with ALL of our heart - a people who continually humble ourselves before Him in the Throne Room. The prophet Malachi stated that there would come a day when one would "once again" be able to distinguish between those who truly love God and those who do not - those who truly serve Him and those who do not. That day is now upon us!

AS ONE IS CONSISTENT IN EXERCISING THEIR FAITH AND WALKING IN OBEDIENCE THEN THE FEAR [REVERENCE] OF THE LORD WILL CONTINUALLY BE ESTABLISHED IN THEIR HEART

*...."Establish Your word to Your servant, As that which produces reverence for You"....
Psalms 119:38 NASB*

"Blessing" is another one of those words that Satan has attempted to corrupt in the thinking of God's children [*"Grace" would be another example*]. Many have come to the place wherein the meaning of this word is that "they" are going to receive something - and to a degree that is true. But the spiritual reality behind all "blessing" is that we receive empowerment [*spirit, soul, body and/or financially*] from the Father for a distinct purpose - His purpose.

In a person's life everything that they attempt to gain or receive is going to be directed towards one of two purposes: for the glory of God or for themselves [*self-glory*]. They are either going to be found operating in a spirit of faith or in a mind-set of self-effort [*self-desire*] - with a view to the fulfilment of their own agenda.

If a Christian is truly "wholly" given to God, if they are truly empowered by Him, and if they are truly seeking the fullness of His purpose THEN they need have no fear of setting their heart on the increase of His blessing. Why? Because as one is consistent in exercising their faith [*love*] and walking in obedience THEN the fear [*reverence*] of the Lord will be continually established in their heart - and, thus, their entire walk becomes divinely focused and empowered. In this place of divine empowerment the motivations of their heart will be for one purpose - and one purpose alone - and that is to glorify God to the greatest degree in ALL things.

THE KEY BEHIND THE PRINCIPLE OF DIVINE BLESSING

...."Take care not to do your good deeds publicly or before men, in order to be seen by them; otherwise you will have no reward [reserved for and awaiting you] with and from your Father Who is in heaven. Thus, whenever you give to the poor, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites in the synagogues and in the streets like to do, that they may be recognized and honored and praised by men. Truly I tell you, they have their reward in full already".... Matthew 6:1-2 The Amplified Translation

...."For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His".... 2 Chronicles 16:9a NASB

When you hear the word "bless" or "blessing" I want you to think "empower" and "empowering". The key behind the principle of ALL divine blessing is this: we are "blessed to be a blessing" [*Genesis 12:1-3*]. We are empowered to empower. We are partakers of the divine nature in order to release [*impart in some way*] that divine nature abiding within us into the lives of all those who cross our path.

We are filled with the Father's love to love. We are filled with His peace and wisdom to impart peace and wisdom. We are filled with His Grace to impart Grace. If the Christian EVER loses sight of this Kingdom principle THEN they will SURELY be caught in the trap of "hording" - even the blessings of God [*the empowerment of God*] for themselves, and for their own purposes [*agendas*]. And, thus, They will use the divine blessings in order to establish themselves [*and their "own kingdom"*] RATHER than the Kingdom of God and the Glorious Church - according to the highest purpose of the Father.

THEIR MOTIVATION WILL REMAIN RIGHTEOUS REGARDLESS OF THE AMOUNT OF PRESSURE AND DARKNESS THAT CONFRONTS THEM

....*"If [when] riches increase, do not set your heart upon them".... Psalms 62:10 NASB*

Again, if the Christian has that revelation [*"blessed to be a blessing"*] established in their heart, then, as they continue on day by day in faith and love and obedience, a holy reverence for the purposes of the Father will be established deeply in their heart, and that "reverence" will manifest spontaneously - regardless of what circumstances they find themselves in. In other words, their motivation will remain "righteous" [*in perfect accordance with the Will of the Father*] regardless of the amount of pressure and darkness that confronts them - and they will NOT set their heart on any "increase" that enters into their life.

WE CANNOT BE HOLY IN OUR OWN STRENGTH!

....*"For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh".... Romans 7:18 NASB*

....*"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life"..... John 6:63 NASB*

Every child of God MUST come to the "full realization" [*gain a deep revelation of the spiritual reality*] that we cannot be holy in our "own" strength. We cannot revere God in our own strength. We cannot serve God in our own strength and, indeed, it is certain that we need the totality of His divine Provision [*empowerment in Christ*] in ALL things - for we can do NOTHING apart from Christ that is of any value whatsoever!

THEY WILL BE VESSELS OF HOLY FIRE - PERFECT REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH THE FATHER AND THE SON IN ALL THAT THEY SAY AND DO!

....*"I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing".... John 15:5 NASB*

....*"And He [the Father] raised us up together with Him and made us sit down together [giving us joint seating with Him] in the heavenly sphere [by virtue of our being] in Christ Jesus [the Messiah, the Anointed One]".... Ephesians 2:6 The Amplified Translation*

It was a simple principle that Jesus spoke when He stated, "You can do nothing apart from Me". BUT it is ABSOLUTE and, thus, ONLY those who have a revelation "burning brightly" *[actively]* in their heart of this spiritual truth will be found "fit" to enter into the fullness of their Kingdom-position in this most critical hour -- a position that will call for them to ascend to the "mountain top" and remain *[abide]* there *[through a continued faith and obedience]* for the remainder of this dispensation. In this holy place one shall come to "abide" in the fullness of their authority in Christ and even though they "physically" continue to walk this earth - spiritually speaking they will be vessels of holy fire sent forth from the Throne Room - perfect representatives of both the Father and the Son in ALL that they say and do!

WHAT KEEPS ONE FROM "FALLING AWAY FROM THE LIVING GOD"?

...."Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power; In holy array, from the womb of the dawn [the "inner chamber"]".... Psalms 110:3 NASB

...."He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.... If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him".... John 14:21,23 NASB

What keeps one from "falling away from the living God"? Drawing near to Him! As one takes a step in faith and obedience toward Him THEN, the scripture tells us, He will draw near to us. When the Father says that He will draw near to us then it is certain that He will draw near to us and reveal Himself to us *[on a daily basis]* in the manner that we need to fulfil our precious destiny in Christ - whatever that may be.

If the deepest desire in the heart of the Christian is not to fulfil their destiny in Christ with perfect accuracy then they need to repent *[turn around and go the other way]* immediately! For the reality of our very existence as born-again children of God is that we were bought with a GREAT PRICE that we might NO LONGER live for ourselves to ANY degree *[2 Corinthians 5:15]* and that we might come into that glorious place of "abiding" in the Kingdom - even though we still "physically" walk this earth.

REVELATION KNOWLEDGE COMES IN THE PRESENCE OF THE FATHER AND HIS WORD AND IT PRODUCES A DEEP AND DIVINE ASSURANCE THAT CANNOT BE OVERCOME FROM THE "OUTSIDE"

...."We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the true knowledge of God [and who we ALREADY are, in Christ], and we are taking every thought captive [through proclamation] to the obedience of Christ [a revelation of the Father's Will]".... 2 Corinthians 10:5 NASB

Revelation knowledge comes in the Presence of the Father and His Word *[through the Spirit of wisdom and revelation]* - and it produces a deep and divine assurance in one's heart that

cannot be overcome from the "outside". Every scheme that Satan attempts to lure the Christian from the narrow path with comes from the "outside". While it is certain that one can "allow" him to influence their heart, if one will guard their heart with ALL diligence *[thus keeping it sensitive before God]* then they will easily combat the schemes of the Enemy against their mind by bringing EVERY thought captive to the revelation that abides within them.

The time has come for EVERY Christian to come to a deep and clear realization of who they truly are IN Christ because it is certain that to the degree they "know" Jesus as Lord that their eyes will be opened to see the ABSOLUTE DEFEAT that was executed upon *[carried out against]* Satan and all of his forces at Calvary. Without this revelation in this hour it is certain that many shall succumb to the wiles of the Evil One at great and devastating cost - both to themselves personally and concerning their corporate calling in the Body of Christ!

THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE KINGDOM

...."the love of God [the Father] has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us".... Romans 5:5 NASB

...."I [Jesus] am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high".... Luke 24:49 NASB

Because of these things, we must be a people who are found "abiding" in *[living by]* revelation knowledge in this hour. This "knowledge" abiding within the heart of the true believer not only produces a "knowing" *[divine assurance]*, it also produces a spontaneous manifestation of the very Character and Wisdom of God, Himself, in the life of the individual believer. Thus, as the true believer comes to that place of abiding in the Holy Spirit - Who is the Spirit of Love, THEN the very atmosphere of the Kingdom is manifested through them in ALL that they do and say. This is the spiritual reality of the true Christian life and this is the spiritual reality of true Kingdom-living. Simply put: the true Christian life is one of an absolute and total empowerment from on high.

ONLY THOSE WHO ARE FAITHFUL - THOSE WHO TRULY LOVE GOD FROM THE PLACE OF A HEART WHOLLY GIVEN - CAN PARTAKE OF THIS WONDROUS UNFOLDING OF THE "MYSTERIES" OF THE CHURCH AND KINGDOM

...."Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see [both know and understand] God [and His highest purpose]".... Matthew 5:8 NASB

These are the days in which the "fullness of time" is going to overtake us *[unfold to a continually greater {and accelerated} degree]* and, therefore, we must be a people who are found ready *[prepared, fit]*. For many years now, revelation knowledge concerning the true plan of the Father for this final hour has come forth, but it is certain that ONLY those who are faithful *[those who truly love God from the place of a heart "wholly given"]* will be found "fit" to partake of the

wondrous unfolding of the "mysteries" of the Church and Kingdom that are being revealed from on high in this most critical hour.

Indeed, ONLY those who "maintain" a pure heart shall be found in position continually to receive perfect empowerment [*have divine sight*] in all things. Let it be CLEARLY understood that in this last of the last hour ONLY those who are rooted and grounded in love will be able to comprehend both the magnificence and magnitude of the manifested Presence of God that is about to rest upon His faithful [*holy*] ones with a view to impacting the entire earth!

THE KINGDOM AND THE "WORLD" ARE POLES APART

.... "But seek [aim at and strive after] first of all His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right]".... Matthew 6:33 The Amplified Translation

.... "According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it. For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is [to be] revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire".... 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 NASB

The Kingdom and the "world" are literally poles apart [*exact opposites*] and, thus, the heart-attitude of EVERY Christian in these days must be to seek a revelation of the Father's heart concerning whatever endeavours He has given them to pursue - in order that they might gain a deep understanding of the fullness of "His" purpose in all that He is leading them into.

In these days, there will be much revelation knowledge coming forth from the Throne Room - revelation knowledge that will displace the false doctrines and traditions of men that have continued to hold many in the church at large in a place of bondage - far below the perfect liberty that is theirs, in Christ. Unknown [*although they should have known*] to those who have held fast to these false doctrines and traditions of men they are rooted and grounded in the darkened wisdom of this present world system - the deepest motivation being "gain" [*increase*] through a spirit of self-exaltation and greed.

Anything gained - or built - through a reliance upon the "flesh" [*the darkened wisdom of the world*] in the "name of Jesus" will become very evident in these days and shown for what it truly is in the eyes of the Father: absolute futility and vanity as far as the establishment of the Kingdom goes! There are many who believe that the "plans" they have formulated are of God when, in reality, they are not. Regardless of how good a thing "looks" - unless it is rooted and grounded in Christ it shall fall by the wayside in this last hour as the fire of the Holy Spirit comes to expose all that which is truly of the Kingdom and that which has its origin in the "world" - and the spirit thereof.

"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned".... John 15:4-6 NASB

NUGGETS FROM THE INNER CHAMBER

* There is no room for self-indulgence on the "narrow path".

...."Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. "For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it".... Matthew 7:13-14 NASB

...."But I say, walk and live [habitually] in the [Holy] Spirit [responsive to and controlled and guided by the Spirit]; then you will certainly not gratify the cravings and desires of the flesh [of human nature without God]".... Galatians 5:16 The Amplified Translation

* It is very important in this hour for every last child of God to begin to focus clearly on what it means to position themselves to enter into the place of living *[abiding]* in the "supernatural". It is a place far above the schemes of the Enemy - a place wherein the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are more real than anything or anyone else.

...."But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ [by grace you have been saved], and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus".... Ephesians 2:4-6 NASB

...."Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God".... Colossians 3:1-3 NASB

* Seek the Holy Spirit for Wisdom in every situation and, in even the smallest details, He will lead you perfectly in all of your ways.

...."Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know, recognize, and acknowledge Him, and He will direct and make straight and plain your paths".... Proverbs 3:5-6 The Amplified Translation

* This is what it is all coming down to now for the remnant Church: "maintaining" a perfect

and absolute trust in God - for ALL things.

....*"For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand [outside.] I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. O LORD of hosts, how blessed is the man/woman who trusts in You!"... Psalms 84:10-12 NASB*

* "Agreement" [*true unity and one accord*] is SO important on every level - and at ALL times.

Satan is terrified of true unity and one accord between true believers [*true sons and daughters*] - and when the "divine connections" that God has planned begin to be brought together in an accelerated manner [*through revelation*] there will be NO looking back - and we, as the remnant Church will walk "non-stop supernaturally" right to the end of the age.

....*"Can two walk together, except they be agreed [have a concurring revelation of the Father's Will]?".... Amos 3:3 KJV*

....*"Again I tell you, if two of you on earth agree (harmonize together, make a symphony together) about whatever [anything and everything] they may ask, it will come to pass and be done for them by My Father in heaven. For wherever two or three are gathered (drawn together as My followers) in (into) My name, there I AM in the midst of them".... Matthew 18:19-20 The Amplified Translation*

* Satan is a liar and there is NO truth in him. True ministry [*in other words, the ministry of Jesus*] does not reinforce the lies of the Enemy it ALWAYS reinforces the "finished" work of Christ - the revelation of which will lead one into a "true" [*and everlasting*] deliverance from the lies of the Enemy into the perfect liberty that is ALREADY theirs, in Him.

....*"You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies".... John 8:44 NASB*

* There is absolutely no question that the Father is raising up a people who refuse to be moved by "the things that are seen" - choosing, instead, to keep their eyes "fixed" [*focused*] on Jesus [*a revelation of God's Word/Will*] - regardless of their circumstances.

....*"For our light, momentary affliction (this slight distress of the passing hour) is ever more and more abundantly preparing and producing and achieving for us an everlasting weight of glory [beyond all measure, excessively surpassing all comparisons and all calculations, a vast and transcendent glory and blessedness never to cease!], Since we consider and look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are visible are temporal*

*(brief and fleeting), but the things that are invisible are deathless and everlasting".... . 2
Corinthians 4:17-18 The Amplified Translation*

* Without "lit lamps" - through the continual flow of the "oil" of the Holy Spirit [*Who is the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, the Spirit of Love etc.*] - darkness will ensue.

...."Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness will cover the earth And deep darkness the peoples; But the LORD will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising".... Isaiah 60:1-3 NASB

...."Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and [began] to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet [him.]' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the prudent, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the prudent answered, 'No, there will not be enough for us and you [too;] go instead to the dealers and buy [some] for yourselves.' And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. Later the other virgins also came, saying, 'Lord, lord, open up for us.' But he answered, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.' "Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour".... Matthew 25:1-13 NASB

* *...."Your words were found and I ate them, and Your words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart; For I have been called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts".... Jeremiah 15:16 NASB*

The scripture above encompasses three aspects of living the true Christian life.

1. The importance of one giving the Word preeminence on a daily basis.
2. The joy of the Lord is our strength - and continually fuels godly desire [*delight*].
3. Having and maintaining a revelation that we are called [*and therefore empowered/anointed*] by His Name [*from before the foundations of the earth*].

* There is nothing more special than the Father's Love.

...."Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and [that]

your joy may be made full".... John 15:9-11 NASB
