The November 2020 MorningStar Oll 10 Volume 30 / No. 11

A WORD FROM RICK JOYNER

ADVANCING INTO THE MATURE PRIESTHOOD

BY MARY ADAMS

THE SPIRIT AND THE KINGDOM

BY JUSTIN PERRY

THE REFUGE OF LIES VS. THE REVOLUTION OF TRUTH

BY DAVID WHITE



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RICKJOYNER

The War Chronicles Part V "Winning the Future"

Journal

A WORD FROM RICK JOYNER THE WAR CHRONICLES PART V PAGE 2

ADVANCING INTO THE MATURE PRIESTHOOD BY MARY ADAMS PAGE 5

THE SPIRIT AND THE KINGDOM By Justin Perry PAGE 7

THE REFUGE OF LIES VS. THE REVOLUTION OF TRUTH By David White PAGE 10

PARTNERS
FROM THE
DESK OF
DAVE YARNES
PAGE 13

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MORNINGSTAR PAGE 14

VISION By Beth Laney PAGE 15 s we are now into the Second American Revolutionary/Civil War, there are three crucial things required for victory:

- 1) we know what the conflict is about
- 2) we understand the battlefield
- 3) we have a clear definition of victory

This present conflict is unfolding around virtually every major moral, social, and spiritual issue, even the basic definitions of right and wrong, and life and death. We have lost more of our religious liberty in the last two decades than in the previous two hundred years, and there is an increasing assault on it. This is part of the overall assault on the basic foundations of civilization, and even beyond that, the image of God that mankind was made in. This is the end of the age that is "the harvest"—the time when all of the seeds that have been sown in man, both the good and the evil, are coming to full maturity.

Though this battlefield is on the spiritual, moral, and social battlefields, laws do matter, and therefore, these are being fought on the political field of battle as well. Though physical conflict has always been a part of these issues, and we can expect this to increase as these times unfold, the

real battlefield is much more spiritual than physical, moral, or social. We must keep that in mind. We must fight on every front, but the spiritual is the most important.

For this reason, regardless of how much the physical battles increase, we must understand that the spiritual warriors are the most important in this unfolding conflict. We can win every physical battle, and even the entire war, but end

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"As battles in these times become more physical there will be times when they must be fought on that realm. If hordes of those with evil intent start to threaten our families, communities, and neighbors who we are commanded to love, of course we must be willing to join in their physical defense. Let us keep in mind that as King David was perhaps the greatest worshiper in Scripture, he was also perhaps the greatest warrior."

up in a much worse place as a country, full of even more corruption and evil, if the spiritual battles are not won. Some of the greatest spiritual warriors may not be physically able because of age or other factors to do much in the physical battles, but they can do much more than anyone on this most crucial battlefield.

Every major issue that is now a battle line can be won physically and politically, even in the most dominant way, but in a short time America will be right back to the same level of spiritual, moral, and political corruption if we do not have another Great Awakening that transforms the hearts and minds of the people. We see this example repeatedly in Scripture as some of the greatest moves of God in Israel's history did not have fruit that lasted long.

An example of this, that is in many ways a parallel to the same spiritual battles we are fighting today, was the removal of the evil King Ahab and Queen Jezebel by Elijah and Jehu. They destroyed the wicked leaders and the false prophets, and tore down the altars to the false gods, but as decisive as they were with these, they failed to follow up these victories by turning the people back to The Lord as well as to the worship and morality He had prescribed for His people.

Without turning our hearts back to God and worshiping Him as our number one goal, we can see how many great movements against evil strongholds such as abortion got diverted and became eccentric, and some even became evil themselves by giving place to hatred and violence to accomplish their goals.

This is certainly not true of all such movements, but far too many so that the ones who went bad started to nullify the good results of the ones that stayed on course. We must keep in mind that as Jesus said, "Satan cannot cast out Satan." As Jesus also declared, "If I cast out demons by the Spirit of God then the kingdom of God has come upon you" (Matthew12:28).

If we are going to accomplish that which is truly the kingdom of God, then it must be done by the Spirit of God. As Peter Lord likes to say, "The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing." The main thing is worshiping God. Is the core of our movement seeking Him, loving Him, and worshiping Him? Is our main goal for dealing with our enemies dispatching them, or turning them to The Lord by the power of His truth and the manifestation of His Spirit?

As battles in these times become more physical there will be times when they must be fought on that realm. If hordes of those with evil intent start to threaten our families, communities, and neighbors who we are commanded to love, of course we must be willing to join in their physical defense. Let us keep in mind that as King David was perhaps the greatest worshiper in Scripture, he was also perhaps the greatest warrior. These two are not in conflict with each other, but fit together as we see in Psalm 149:5-9:

Let the godly ones exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their beds.

Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand, "We know that 'God is love,' but we also see that His judgment and vengeance is going to come upon the wicked. This is not a contradiction or a conflict. His judgments and His vengeance come because He loves us. Those of the emerging generations whose mentality has been shaped into dualistic thinking by the indoctrination that public education in America has become, now have a veil over their eyes that makes them incapable of seeing both His kindness and severity at the same time."

to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

To bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron,

To execute on them the judgment written; this is an honor for all His godly ones.

We know that "God is love," but we also see that His judgment and vengeance is going to come upon the wicked. This is not a contradiction or a conflict. His judgments and His vengeance come because He loves us. Those of the emerging generations whose mentality has been shaped into dualistic thinking by the indoctrination that public education in America has become, now have a veil over their eyes that makes them incapable of seeing both His kindness and severity at the same time. Such can

only see in extremes, and they can no longer hear anything that upsets the presumed safety of their safe spaces. We need special wisdom and anointing from the Lord to break through this, but for now we must not allow this type of mentality to lead or control us.

The same God who loves all men and desires for them to be saved came the first time as the Lamb, but He is coming back as the Lion. Both are His nature, and we must understand and know both. We see in the biblical prophecies right through the Book of Revelation that He is coming back with vengeance against the evil and a rod of iron for the nations that have opposed Him. If we are in unity with Him, we will be both great worshipers and also great warriors as is the nature of "The Son of David."

To walk in the truth that is life we must know the timing of The Lord. We must recognize when it is time to worship and when it is time to fight. If we cannot do both, we do not really know The Lord as He is. Such will be deceived if we are trying to worship when it is time to fight, or fight when it is time to worship. True worshipers love the truth enough to be willing to fight for it.

As I saw in the vision I wrote about in *The Final Quest*, a great battle is upon us, and those who do not understand this and just want to be lovers will be easy prey for the enemy and end up fighting against The Lord and His true soldiers.

It is the time for war, and we are called to be warriors, but that does not mean that we do not keep worship first. We keep the "high praises of God" in our mouths, while we keep the sword of the Spirit in our hands. We must learn to worship and fight at the same time so that our fighting is worship, service to The Lord, and devotion to His truth.

In His Service,

Rick Joyner

I Corinthians 15:58



Advancing Into the Mature Priesthood

BY MARY ADAMS

he Book of Zechariah clarifies mysteries and puts everything together to unveil the advent of a rising priesthood following after the order of Melchizedek. The book, while addressing the contemporary rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity, ultimately points to end-time events where the fullness of the Spirit and His purposes will be revealed. Zechariah 4:10 stated it was a "small thing" for His Spirit to anoint the spiritual and civil leaderships of that day to rebuild the temple. How much more can we expect to see God manifest unprecedented power to fulfill His promises to the nations in the end times? The Lord often combines beginning and end-time prophecies together, as in Zechariah; He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.



Zechariah opens with his vision of the plumb line, where the Lord is ready to act on rebuilding the temple by removing obstacles and releasing His seven Spirits to accomplish His will. The picture quickly translates into the filthy garments of Joshua, the High Priest of that day, signifying the sin in the priesthood. God tells His angels to take off the filthy garments and clothe Joshua with clean garments and a turban on his head.

The putting on of clean garments in Zechariah 3 signifies the removal of the old, sinful ways of the priesthood and the land to prepare the way for the anointing by the seven Spirits to accomplish God's plan. Judgment always begins with the household of God (see I Peter 4:17) as the priesthood's alignment with heaven will determine heaven's alignment with the earth.

When we look into the Hebrew origin of Zechariah 3:7, there is a deeper meaning. The word "govern" in this verse has judicial inference with meaning such as suit, justice, sentence, and judge. It implies that a

"The end-time priesthood will be enlightened by the seven Spirits of God, embodied in the outflow of the lampstand, and anointed to complete God's purposes on earth as it is in heaven. Without the seven Spirits of God and the increased flow from the lampstand, we will not be able to go forward."

priest's role is to maintain righteousness by judging sin and releasing the decrees and judgments of the Lord on earth. The Book of Ezekiel repeatedly reinforces this message that the priesthood must discern the decrees of the Lord and His judgments in order to not be overcome by darkness.

The Hebrew word for "charge" in Zechariah 3:7 presents the idea of having custody, guarding, acting as a sentry, and watching. So God is commanding that the priesthood keep guard, keep watch, and steward the gates of His courts to prevent the unclean or demonic entities from coming in. We are reminded that God gave Adam the same command to watch over the garden and that generational command was passed down in the patriarchal times to "possess the gates of their enemies" (see Genesis 22:17, Genesis 24:60, Psalm 127:5). In fact, we see every gate in the Book of Revelation guarded by an angel. The priesthood has a command to discern and guard the heavenly courts, which is God's focal point at this time to release His purposes.

As righteousness condemns wickedness, so the priesthood's transition to the new heavenly empowered priesthood will dispel and block out demonic accusations from reoccurring. This priesthood (i.e., the bride of Christ) will be accusation free, without spot or blemish, so that the accuser of the brethren, Satan and his cohorts, will have nothing to accuse. Satan will no longer be able to have a hold on the end-time bride and will have no more strength to prevail in the courts. When Satan and his accusers are cast out of heaven and its courts, there will be

no more obstruction. The balance of power will shift so that the bride has the authority to judge angels and the world (see I Corinthians 6:2,3).

The final promise from the courtroom scene of Zechariah 3:7 is that Joshua will stand among these (i.e., the angels in the heavenly courts). Like Joshua, we are called to take our place in the heavenly courts.

We are reminded of the origin of the lampstand in the Tabernacle, which is the only way into the Most Holy Place. As the lampstand was necessary to engage the will of the Lord in Moses' and Zechariah's day, how much more do we need its increased empowerment in these end times? The lampstand is so important that the Book of Revelation mentions it several times in the first two chapters as it introduces end-time events. The lampstand is where the revealing of Jesus Christ and His ecclesia (church), built on the revelation of Christ the Rock, flow from. Wherever the lampstand is, that is where Jesus walks (see Revelation 1:12-13, 1:20, 2:1, Matthew 16:18-20). Jesus rebukes the Church of Ephesus by telling them if they do not return to their first love, He will remove their lampstand (see Revelation 2:5).

The end-time priesthood will be enlightened by the seven Spirits of God, embodied in the outflow of the lampstand, and anointed to complete God's purposes on earth as it is in heaven. Without the seven Spirits of God and the increased flow from the lampstand, we will not be able to go forward. The seven Spirits will take a greater role in these end times to complete us to bring in His kingdom (see Jeremiah 1:9-10).

God reveals mysteries for us to search them out. We need a greater understanding of the courts and the interaction of the seven Spirits in these end times. Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has the heart imagined what is about to happen in this next phase of the unfolding of God's mysteries—Christ living within us to reconcile the world to Himself.

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The Spirit and the Kingdom

BY JUSTIN PERRY

he Day of Pentecost was the transitional moment in human history. The Spirit of God was poured out on His people to inaugurate them as a different kind of humanity. According to Acts 1:8, the power of the Spirit was given to these people so they could be God's witnesses. This means that their lives would represent and reveal Him to the earth. Their lives would testify that God and His kingdom are near or "at hand" (see Mark 1:15).



The Spirit-filled church is meant to be a community of "kingdom people"—representatives of the kingdom of God. To appreciate our identity as kingdom people, we must have a basic understanding of what the Scriptures mean by "kingdom of God." The biblical teaching of the kingdom of God is usually interpreted in one of two ways. First, the kingdom of God may refer to God's authority and dominion over the kingdoms and powers of this age (see Matthew 12:28; Mark 9:1; Luke 10:8-11). Second, the kingdom of God may refer to a future age in which Jesus will reign bodily as King over all creation (see Mark 14:24-25; Luke 13:28-29, 22:28-30). Whichever of these interpretations is correct, as kingdom people we somehow disclose God's kingdom (either His present authority or His future kingship) to the earth.

THE AUTHORITY OF THE KING AND THE AGE OF HIS DOMINION

It seems there is significant biblical evidence for both of the above kingdom of God interpretations, and both are valid. The kingdom of God refers to His power and authority in this age and His literal reign "The Holy Spirit enables God's people to exercise His dominion over the powers of this age and to bring the age to come into our present day. When Jesus commissioned His followers to 'preach the kingdom of God' and 'heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, and cast out demons' (see Matthew 10:7-8; Luke 9:2, 10:9), He made a connection between the nearness of the kingdom of God and the miraculous powers believers are called to walk in."

in the age to come. Further, it is clear from Scripture that the kingdom of God manifests by His Spirit and through His people.

The Holy Spirit enables God's people to exercise His dominion over the powers of this age and to bring the age to come into our present day. When Jesus commissioned His followers to "preach the kingdom of God" and "heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, and cast out demons" (see Matthew 10:7-8; Luke 9:2, 10:9), He made a connection between the nearness of the kingdom of God and the miraculous powers believers are called to walk in. In other words, the presence of the kingdom of God manifests through His people in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus' first-century audience would have been acutely sensitive to His language of the imminence of the kingdom of God. They were waiting for the kingdom of God to come (see Luke 23:51). To them, Jesus meant that Messiah would soon come to set up the kingdom of God on the earth. He would vanquish their enemies, throw off Roman political oppression, become their king, and initiate a new age of the presence of God on the earth. For Jesus to say "the kingdom of God is at hand" (see Mark 1:15) meant that the defeat of their enemies and reign of God on the earth was about to begin. Further for Him to say, "If I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you" (see Matthew 12:28) meant that the reign of God on the earth had already begun through Him. They would have understood Jesus to mean, "The age to come, which you have been waiting for, is already here. I have brought a manifestation of the age to come into the present moment."

AN ESCHATOLOGICAL PEOPLE

Jesus gave His followers simple instructions. His commission to the seventy was the same as His commission to the twelve: perform miraculous signs by the Spirit of God and preach the imminence of His kingdom (see Matthew 10, Luke 9-10). His commission to believers today is no different. When we walk in the power of the Spirit, we announce the coming of His kingdom. We walk in dominion over the powers of this age because, by the Spirit, we impose the powers of the age to come into the present day. In this sense, we are an "eschatological people" who bring the future into the present. Eschatology is the "study of last things" or the theology of the future.

In Gordon Fee's excellent book, *Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God*, he expounds on the identity of the church as an eschatological people. Fee explains that the Holy Spirit "enables us to live as a radically eschatological people in the present world, while we await the consummation [of the ages]. All the rest, including fruit and gifts [of the Spirit] serve to that end." Fee goes on to explain that this is the primary reason the Spirit of God has been given to the church—to inaugurate us as an "eschatological people."

Spirit-filled believers live in the present age as citizens of the age to come. We walk in authority over sickness because in the age to come, there is no sickness. We walk in authority over demons because in the age to come, demons have no dominion. We carry the presence of God because in the age to come, the presence of God

dominates the atmosphere. The Spirit upon us manifests the kingdom of God in this present age.

To the degree that we walk as kingdom people by the power of the Holy Spirit, we will demonstrate these characteristics—in the present age. The Spirit makes us faithful witnesses of Jesus, the King, and the reality of His kingdom.

THE MORNING STAR

In Scripture there is a prophetic picture that illustrates these realities—the Morning Star. Throughout antiquity, the Morning Star was an astronomical indicator of time. For thousands of years, men measured time by the position of the sun during the day and the position of the stars at night. Therefore, late in the darkness of night, the Morning Star would rise over the horizon and announce to the earth "the night is coming to an end and a new day is dawning."

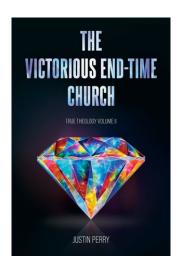
The prophetic significance of this phenomenon is that the Morning Star is not a star, it is the planet Venus. As a planet, Venus has no light of its own; it merely reflects the light of the coming sun. In Scripture, the church is promised to display the characteristics of the Morning Star in two passages (see II Peter 1:19; Revelation 2:28). Further, in the Word of God, the sun is often a picture of Jesus, the Son of God (see Malachi 4:2; II Samuel 23:4) and the sun shining above the earth is a picture of the Son (the King) reigning over His kingdom.

As the church steps into the Morning Star identity, we begin to shine brightly in the midst of the night. We

"As the church steps into the Morning Star identity, we begin to shine brightly in the midst of the night. We reflect the glory of the Son who is coming, and our very lives announce that the night is ending and a new day is breaking forth."

reflect the glory of the Son who is coming, and our very lives announce that the night is ending and a new day is breaking forth. Where we go, the sick are healed and the oppressed are delivered as a witness to the King and His coming kingdom. We walk in the fulfillment of the prayer Jesus taught us, "Father, Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (see Matthew 6:9-10).

May we walk in the power of the Holy Spirit and bring the age to come into our present day!

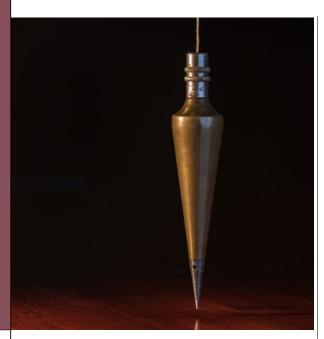


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The Refuge of Lies vs. the Revolution of Truth

BY DAVID WHITE



All Scripture references are New King James Version, unless otherwise indicated.

n his book 1984, George Orwell wrote, "In a time of universal deceit—telling the truth is a revolutionary act."

Grieved over the backslidden state of his nation, the Prophet Isaiah addressed the leaders and those who followed by boldly declaring, "Therefore hear the word of the Lord, you scornful men, who rule this people who are in Jerusalem, because you have said, 'We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood we have hidden ourselves" (Isaiah 28:14-15).

Isaiah was calling for nothing less than a revolution in dealing with and delivering the people from falsehoods that had blinded them from seeing the obvious things that were separating them from their God.

DISCERNING THE RIGHTEOUS FROM THE WICKED

Those called to serve as priests of the Lord were given the responsibility to teach people the difference between the holy and the unholy, the clean and the unclean, with no regard for how controversial their doing so could become. This was so that God's people could discern the difference between those who served God from those who merely served themselves. "And they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. In controversy they shall stand as judges, and judge it according to My judgments" (see Ezekiel 44:23-24).

"Then you shall again discern between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him" (Malachi 3:18).

Biblical history reveals times when God's people were ruled by those who did what was right in the sight of the Lord as well as those who did what was evil. Some were known as champions and defenders of truth, while others became masters of deceit and enemies of the truth. The latter led people into exchanging the truth for lies and progressively into captivity.

It is written of Hezekiah king of Judah, "And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father David had done" (II Kings 18:3). Hezekiah is described as a leader who, "trusted in the Lord God of Israel, so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor who were before him. For he held fast to the Lord; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the Lord had commanded Moses. The Lord was with him; he prospered wherever he went" (see II Kings 18:5-7).

As a result of Hezekiah's obedience to the commandments of the Lord, both he and those he led prospered. Hezekiah gained the most coveted testimony of truly great leadership when it was written, "the Lord was with him."

On the other hand, the Scriptures record when Jeroboam, King of Israel "did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin by which he had made Israel sin" (see I Kings 15:26). Jeroboam was a wicked leader whose own rebellion against God led the people he ruled into rebellion and its consequences.

Isaiah warned the rulers and people of his day that although they took refuge (shelter) in lies and hid themselves in falsehoods, eventually their perceived covering would come crashing down. Isaiah declared, "For the bed is too short to stretch out on, and the covering so narrow that one cannot wrap himself in it" (Isaiah 28:20). There would be no place to hide or

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remain comfortable. What Isaiah describes as "the overflowing scourge" (see Isaiah 28:15, 18) was coming, and God was their only refuge and hope. They only had to turn back to Him.

Isaiah reminds the people that the Lord set the standard for justice and righteousness by which all will be judged. No agreement or allegiance with darkness and evil will rescue them from the righteous justice of God. "Also I will make justice the measuring line, and righteousness the plummet; the hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters will overflow the hiding place. Your covenant with death will be annulled, and your agreement with Sheol will not stand; when the overflowing scourge passes through, then you will be trampled down by it" (Isaiah 28:17-18). Isaiah continues by promising that as God's justice unfolded, "it will be a terror just to understand the report" (see Isaiah 28:19).

Previously Isaiah explained how the reason for their dilemma could be found in their pride and refusal to walk in the way that would have given them what they were really looking for. Instead of believing and following God's truth, they trusted in lies. He reminded them how God had spoken, "This is the rest with which you may cause the weary to rest," and, "this is the refreshing"; yet (sadly), they would not hear" (see Isaiah 28:12).

After describing the terror that comes upon those who refuse the knowledge, counsel, and rebuke of the Lord, the wisest king who ever lived, Solomon, wrote, "But whoever listens to me (God), will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil" (Proverbs 1:33).

The Scriptures have much to say about wicked versus righteous leaders, the importance of us wisely choosing between the two, and what happens in a society where the wicked rule. Here are just a few examples:

"Like a roaring lion and a charging bear is a wicked ruler over poor people. A ruler who lacks understanding is a great oppressor" (Proverbs 28:15-16).

"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when a wicked man rules, the people groan" (Proverbs 29:2).

"If a ruler pays attention to lies, all his servants become wicked" (Proverbs 29:12).

"For the leaders of this people cause them to err, and those who are led by them are destroyed" (Isaiah 9:16).

"The righteous should choose his friends (or leaders) carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray" (Proverbs 12:26).

Although history is filled with examples of both righteous and wicked leaders, one thing remains the same, God! He never changes in spite of who might rule over the governments of men. His kingdom is unshakable and ever expanding on the earth, especially within the hearts of men and women who know and follow Him. His truth endures forever!

TRUTH SETS AND KEEPS PEOPLE FREE

"Jesus said to them, 'If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. But now you seek to kill Me a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. You do the deeds of your father.' Then they said to Him, 'We were not born of fornication; we have one Father-God.' Jesus said to them, 'If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me" (John 8:39-45).

"The world is ready for a revolution of truth which involves speaking the truth, believing the truth, following the truth, living the truth, but most of all, knowing and loving Truth—Jesus."

Jesus was a revolutionary and enemy to those whose desire was to do the deeds of the devil, the original liar and father of all lies. Jesus came as the Truth to tell the truth that could both set and keep men and women free. But most could not listen because they had been blinded by the lies in which they trusted, lies that would lead to their certain captivity and eventual destruction.

Without question, the most revolutionary statement ever made was when Jesus declared, "and you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (see John 8:32). He alone was and remains, "the way, the truth, and the life" (see John 14:6). Jesus is the stronger One over every strong man and stronghold of deceit (see Luke 11:22).

The world is ready for a revolution of truth which involves speaking the truth, believing the truth, following the truth, living the truth, but most of all, knowing and loving Truth—Jesus. He is still calling men and women out of darkness to come to Him. Join the revolution that will never end. 🎾

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FROM THE DESK OF DAVE YARNES

here is something about the illusion of life that the right starting point for a journey of change is somewhere ahead but not in the present hour. The right projected starting point will be "When the kids are out of school" or "After I land this new position" or "When I retire I'll have more time" or "After I finish college." The list goes on. However, the discovery of a lifetime is not somewhere far away in some vague place. Opportunities you have overlooked for years could be hidden right in front of you, waiting to be discovered. The allure of a better starting point in the future is an illusion. You only have today.

Most of the time, what you need is right in front of you, waiting to be discovered. Time and time again, men and women feel they must leave everything and seek fulfilling relationships, increased self-satisfaction, and happiness somewhere other than where they live, work, and worship. They think it is impossible that their success could be close and obtainable.

Are you like others, so convinced that satisfaction and fulfillment lies elsewhere that you may fail to see that the very thing you have been longing to uncover is within reach? I challenge you to reexamine your life and see the potential resources right at hand. Planning your passion necessitates a starting point that is always right where you're standing today.

Unimaginable discoveries are waiting for you, right under your feet. Your life, your character, your personality, your passion, and your skills are unique and fit perfectly, like a key in a lock. The experiences, richness, and quality of life that you have been seeking can all start to unfold right from where you are now.

In His service,

Dave Yarnes

Executive Vice President, MorningStar Ministries

Tower Breakthrough

e are moving forward! In early September, the York County municipality made a proposal that now enables MorningStar to start applying for building permits to complete the Tower. Dave Herr, who heads up the Heritage Communities, said, "After years of prayer, we can now move forward with restoring the Tower. This is the breakthrough we have been waiting for." As of September 11, 2020, when this breakthrough was publicly announced on the Jim Bakker Show, Heritage Communities is now taking reservations for units in the Tower.

Here are some facts about the Tower:

 The Tower was originally constructed in 1986 and had approximately 550 original rooms in 21 stories.

- From all accounts, it was 90 days away from being opened.
- Many of the floors have carpeting and wallpaper and were ready to go.
- From 1986 until now, the Tower has sat completely vacant.
- Our current plan will be to remodel the Tower to have 19 floors of beautiful apartment homes, ranging in size. They will be available through both leasing and life-leasing purchase.
- The 1st floor is currently planned to be the most beautiful lobby and reception space in the area. It will feature a vaulted ceiling and a grand staircase, which will lead to the 2nd floor full of shops and amenities.
- The 21st floor will house a beautiful sky lounge with roof access.

As many of our Partners have seen, MorningStar has revitalized its campus with lake-access, the BJVC, and many other amenities on campus. With the addition of the Tower, MorningStar plans to enhance its array of amenities as well.

In Luke 14:28 it says, "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it." Rick Joyner will tell you that this Tower is a symbol, a prophetic symbol. The Tower was used to humiliate the international body of Christ, and was a symbol, specifically the devil's boast, that the church could not even finish a Tower. However, this prophetic symbol is going to be a



testimony that anything that God begins, He will finish. This 10-year battle had to be a long, hard fight. Anything that happens too fast or too easily is almost always insignificant. Rick believes that it was such a tough battle because it is so important.

A big thank you for our Partners and prayer warriors that have stood with us, believing for this breakthrough.



This is Dave Yarnes with Roe Messner. Roe Messner is the original builder of the Tower. These two were meeting this day to discuss building plans for the tower (Picture taken in the Tower).



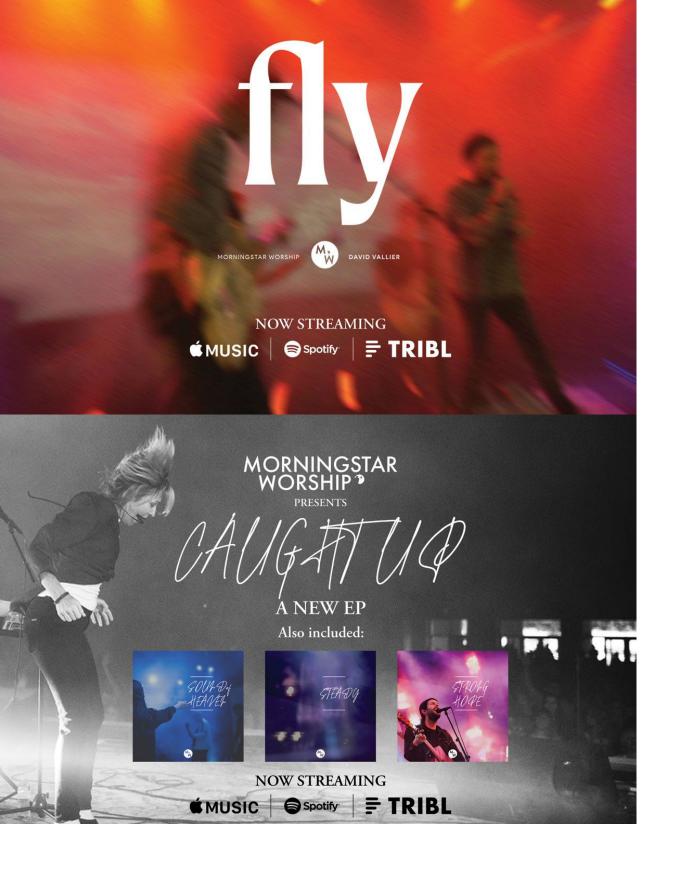
BETH LANEY

Young Adults Pastor

verybody, always. How many times do we hear ourselves say those two words? "Everybody does it this way." "Everybody wears it like that." "This is the way it's always been done." "I've always been like this." It's so easy to get caught up in repetition, competition, and comparisons that we sometimes neglect to see our own identities and callings.

Recently, my friend and I were commenting about how talented a guest speaker and worship leader was. I heard myself saying things like, "His voice is so strong and clear. I wish I could sing like that!" and "I just want to teach that way! I long to understand God with the same level of revelation that he does." After I left that conversation, it occurred to me how it must sound to God when I say things like this. He created me with the giftings and abilities that He wanted me to have. My friend is an accomplished worship leader and teacher in her own right. She walks in a level of authority that astounds me. Yet here we were, inwardly comparing our abilities to this other person. While it is good to recognize and celebrate the giftings of others, it is also important not to get lost in a game of comparisons. How many times have we given into this trap?

When we begin looking at each other rather than Jesus, it's so easy to lose sight of the abilities that God placed in us and the things that He has called us to. He has given us each the skills that are necessary for our individual journey. While some competition is healthy, and practice makes us stronger, we also need to be careful to not get caught up in the temptation to be like everybody around us. We have to work on improving our own abilities. It's good to take time with God to seek understanding of the things that He has called us to and the ways that He has equipped us to do them. The people that we admired for their accomplishments understand this. They have their eyes locked on Jesus and are committed to going further with Him. Let's take time to seek God and ask Him how we can become better together.





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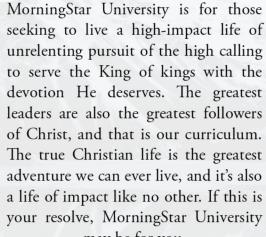






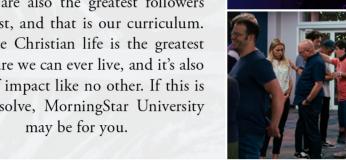




















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