

"In all who are under the training of God is to be revealed a life that is not in harmony with the world, its customs, or its practices; and everyone needs to have a personal experience in obtaining a knowledge of the will of God. We must individually hear Him speaking to the heart. When every other voice is hushed, and in quietness we wait before Him, the silence of the soul makes more distinct the voice of God. He bids us, 'Be still, and know that I am God.' Psalms 46:10. Here alone can trust be found...Amid the hurrying throng, and the strain of life's intense activities, the soul that is thus refreshed will be surrounded with an atmosphere of light and peace." *The Desire of Ages*, p. 362.

Greetings From Your BTLM Family!

BEHOLD THE LAMB MINISTRIES

UPDATE FOR

Hello dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ! We greet you in the name of Jesus. My, how our time seems to be moving so fast—so fast that we haven't the energy to keep up with it!

The Lord has blessed us with another set of evangelistic meetings. This time we are holding them in our local BTLM Church. We are conducting them in a different manner than normal to try to accommodate for individual schedules. Thus, we are holding meetings every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sabbath mornings for anyone interested in attending. We have been blessed with several non-Adventists seeking to know the Truth as presented in God's word. How wonderful to rightly divide the Word of Truth and experience the blessings of God's Spirit speaking to our hearts!

However, we entreat your prayers. As we move forward for the Lord, the enemy is strongly at work sowing seeds of misunderstanding and discord. He knows better than we that his time on this earth is very short. This brings a test of faith for those involved. We who are leading out in these meetings have chosen to put our faith and trust in the Lord and allow Him to work out the unfortunate developments at this time. God has blessed us with several who are hungering and thirsting for the truth. And we must do our part in focusing our efforts and prayers upon these people. We mustn't for a moment relinquish our part in what God is calling us to do at this time.

Think about it friends, similar scenarios are playing out in each of our lives. How often we find ourselves tempted to dwell on the negative rather than remember where God has lead and dwell on where He is leading in our lives. The disciples found out

just how dangerous loosing sight of their calling was just after they had experienced one of the best days of their walk with the Saviour here on Earth. They had witnessed a spectacular miracle when Jesus fed over 5,000 people with only two small fish and five barley loaves of bread. Their hearts greatly rejoiced when they realized that the people receiving



Pastor Kenny Shelton

this miracle began to proclaim Christ as their long awaited Messiah! Everyone, including the disciples, thought this was the time to make Christ King. Thoughts of Judea being an earthly paradise; a king who could satisfy their every earthly desire; He could see that no one ever hungered or thirst again; He could break the power held upon them by Rome. And, of course, in the minds of the disciples, this was their chance to show everyone, especially the Pharisees whom hated Jesus so much, that the disciples were right in following Jesus. You see, their hearts had been troubled by the constant rejection of the leaders of the Church. And the truth they were being taught by the Messiah, was being twisted and made appear to be error by those whom were

perceived as the spiritual leaders of the Jewish nation. "This was their chance of redemption and honor they rightly deserved," they seemingly thought. However, Jesus knew this was not His time for such an earthly kingdom. And in authority they had never heard from Him before, He bid them to leave at once for Capernaum by boat. And after their departure, how our Saviour prayed for these men to understand the divine mission of His first Advent; to understand that His coronation on this earth was that of His crucifixion! He prayed that Satan not be allowed to blind their understanding and pervert their judgment as he so often has done to so many of us through the love of earthly recognition and honor.

We read in *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 381-389, "They (the disciples) had left Jesus with dissatisfied hearts, more impatient with Him than ever before since acknowledging Him as their Lord. They murmured because they had not been permitted to proclaim Him king... (They had just experienced hours of large blessings), but they had forgotten it all. They were in the midst of troubled waters. Their thoughts were stormy and unreasonable, and the Lord gave them something else to afflict their souls and occupy their minds. God often does this when men create burdens and troubles for themselves." *Continued on page 4.*

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The Supported Church

“If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless, we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ. Do you not know that those who minister the holy things eat of the things of the temple...? Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel.” I Corinthians 9:11-14.

“The tithe was but a part of God’s plan for the support of His work. His plan includes numerous other gifts and offerings. By this system of benevolence the Lord taught the Israelites that He must be placed first in all things. And God does not intend that Christians, whose privileges far exceed those of the Jewish nation, should give less freely than they gave.

“If professing Christians would faithfully bring to God their tithes and offerings, His treasury would be full, and there would be no need for other fund-raising activities to support the work of the gospel.

“Too many Christians are inclined to spend money for self indulgence—spending freely, even extravagantly, on clothes, homes, pleasure, and luxuries of all



kinds. Those whose hearts are aglow with the love of Christ will consider it a pleasure to generously advance the

work of God with their financial resources. Freely we have received; freely should we give.” *The Acts of the Apostles*, Chapter 32.

Brethren and Sisters, we are fully aware of the financial difficulties our country, and like believers, are facing. Should this stop our work? We don’t believe so. It should, however, remind us of the nearness of Christ’s coming and the importance to do more in His cause. We need your help. Our support is made only through willing vessels used of God to further His work. Will YOU be a vessel of help and support?

Prayer Requests: *“Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.” I Corinthians 2:9.*

—Please pray for the family of Lottie B.

—Continue to pray for Franklin H. He lost his lovely wife a few months ago.

—Pray for James & Peggy F. James has recently been hospitalized for two months!

—Pray for Bud & Sharon B. Bud has recently been diagnosed with cancer.

—Elaine D. requests prayer for chil-

dren, grandchildren, & family members.

—Sandra A. needs urgent prayer. Sugar diabetes is out-of-control & she is going blind.

—Pray for Derek S. who was recently hit by a car while riding his motor cycle.

—Tom B. has been very, very ill for several years. His system simply reacts to nearly everything the environment has to offer. He feels he is losing his battle for health at times. We know God is able to still bring healing if it be His will!

—Also pray for Barbara R., Tom’s sister.

—Pray for Marion J.

—Remember Bonnie J. and family.

—Anita P. requests prayer.

—Ed & Loraine W. requests prayer for their dear son, Chuck. Ed & Loraine are also in need of your remembrance in prayer.

—Pray for Donita B.’s daughter, Peggy.

—Leisha H. requests prayer for God’s direction in making the right decisions.

—Remember Seretha. She is having difficulty with her parents decisions.

Psalms 92:12-15

“The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree: he shall grow like the cedar of Lebanon. Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing; to show that the Lord is upright: He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.”

Travel Dates Open!

That’s right! After the month of August, we have several travel dates available. Plan now for a weekend; or even a three-week evangelistic series to be held in your area. And with enough financial support, we can possibly arrange for a singer and a leader for a children’s program to travel with us. The possibilities are all up to you! We look forward to serving in your area.

SUPPORT Needed!

- Funds are needed to continue to send more books to El Salvador.
- Funds are needed to continue sending books to Africa.
- Funds are needed for the hundreds of DVD's/CD's to continue to be mailed throughout North America and abroad. Do to the rapidly rising cost of postage for these items, our mailings have now been cut to once a month for each. Yet, the cost is the same as if we were sending out at least six mailings a month when compared to the rates just last year! Please realize, we still want anyone who desires the word on DVD/CD to have it each month whether, or not, they can afford it. But what a blessing if everyone who receives a DVD/CD would find it in their heart to send a small donation for them each consecutive month.
- Funds are needed for the mounting travel expenses to help pay for the travel to areas that needed our help but were unable to pay the cost.
- Funds are needed to send more books to our local prisons.
- Funds are needed to purchase the hundreds of books used to pass out from our Ministry each Sabbath and throughout the week by a faithful few who do this as part of their missionary work here in America.
- Funds are needed to purchase a color printer and copier.
- Funds are needed to support Brother Ben and Sister Lisa Brown as medical missionaries to the Philippines for a couple of weeks.

God bless you for your support!

“A Parent’s Strength” Quotes from, *The Desire of Ages*...

<p><i>“Let mothers come to Jesus with their perplexities. They will find grace sufficient to aid them in the management of their children. The gates are open for every mother who would lay her burdens at the Saviour’s feet.... If we live in communion with God, we too may expect the divine Spirit to mold our little ones even from their earliest moments.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>p. 512.</i></p>	<p><i>“The grace of Christ in the heart will impart a heaven-born dignity and sense of propriety. It will soften whatever is harsh, and subdue all that is coarse and unkind. It will lead fathers and mothers to treat their children as intelligent beings, as they themselves would like to be treated.”</i> p. 515</p>	<p><i>“Teach the children to see Christ in nature....and that God made laws to govern all living things and He made laws for us, and that these laws are for our happiness and joy. Do not weary them with long prayers and tedious exhortations, but through nature’s object lessons, teach them obedience to the law of God.”</i> p. 516</p>
<p><i>“The Saviours heart is drawn out, not only to the best-behave children, but to those who have by inheritance objectionable traits of character. Many parents do not understand how much they are responsible for these traits in their children. They have not the tenderness and wisdom to deal with the erring ones whom they have made what they are. But Jesus looks upon these children with pity. He traces from cause to effect.”</i> p. 517.</p>	<p><i>“In working for the conversion of our children, we should not look for violent emotion as the essential evidence of conviction of sin. Nor is it necessary to know the exact time when they are converted. We should teach them to bring their sins to Jesus, asking His forgiveness, and believing that He pardons and receives...”</i>p. 515.</p>	<p><i>“It is still true that children are the most susceptible to the teaching of the gospel; their hearts are open to divine influences, and strong to retain the lessons received....They need to be educated in spiritual things, and parents should give them every advantage, that they may form characters after the similitude of the character of Christ.”</i> p. 514.</p>

DRINKING FROM MY SAUCER

*I've never made a fortune and it's probably too late now.
 But, I don't worry about that much,
 I'm happy anyhow.
 For as I go along life's way,
 I'm reaping better than I sowed.
 I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.
 I haven't got a lot of riches,
 And sometimes the going's tough.
 But, there are caring folks around me,
 And that makes me rich enough.
 I thank God for His blessings,
 And the mercies He's bestowed.
 I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.
 If God gives me strength and courage
 When the going gets steep and rough,
 I'll not ask for other blessings—
 I'm already blessed enough.
 And may I never be too busy
 To help others bear their loads.
 With them I'll share my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed!*

—By, George McPhee

Did you get it? When we focused/get side tracked away from God’s plan, “we create burdens and troubles for ourselves.” It’s time we understand this and make decided efforts to focus our minds upon Jesus and His work for us. The “something else” that God allowed the disciples to experience was a terrible storm upon the water. “(Soon) when the gale struck them, they were afraid. They forgot their disaffection, their unbelief, their impatience. Everyone worked to keep the boat from sinking...Then the weary men gave themselves up for lost. In the storm and darkness the sea had taught them their own helplessness, and they longed for the presence of their Master.” Friends, we are no different! We, too, get caught up in clouds of darkness that many times we have unknowingly brought upon ourselves. And even when we haven’t, we are still to deal with the situation all the same—and that is call upon Jesus for help. He has promised there is no burden too heavy for Him to bear. He bids us to cast our cares upon Him, for He cares for us! I Peter 5:7. What a tremendous invitation if we would but learn to use it. And, Oh, how He must get our attention as He did the disciples. Sometimes, He must allow other trials, or tribulations to come our way to put our priorities back in a saving order.

And what lessons we can learn from Peter in this same story. You remember, after the hearts of the disciples were once again set upon their Saviour, they prayed for help, and help was immediately given. A figure was seen approaching the boat upon the water. They were frightened at first. Then they heard the lovely voice of the Master say, “Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.” Mark 6:50. Joy began to fill their hearts. And Peter yelled out, “Lord, if it be Thou, bid me come unto Thee on the water. And He said, ‘Come.’” Matthew 14:28. “Looking unto Jesus, Peter walks securely; but as in self-satisfaction he glances back toward his companions in the boat, his eyes are turned from the Saviour. The wind is boisterous. The waves roll high, and come directly between him and the Master; and he is afraid. For a moment Christ is hidden from his view, and his faith gives way. He begins to sink.” *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 381-382. For a moment Peter’s eyes are off the Saviour! In that moment his life is in a lost condition—he begins to sink and drown! How many moments of every day do our eyes wonder away from our Lord? Think about it! We, too, find ourselves often in a lost condition by the simplest of choices! Do we really have “time” to gamble with our salvation? Do we have “time” to take our eyes off the Saviour and focus on trivial matters? Absolutely not! We know not what the next day holds for us; or even our very next moment. Remember, we are not promised tomorrow, we must live each day as if tomorrow will never come.



Dear friends, it’s no secret to most of us the time in which we live. Unless, God holds back the winds of strife once more, this great nation of ours is heading for an economic collapse. This is escalated with the current oil prices; fires; furious storms; earthquakes; with more disasters on the horizon. We must be focusing our efforts upon giving the gospel of Christ while it is yet “day.” For the “night” is coming when we will experience more of what the disciples of Christ experience. We will be accused of being a heretic; believing in fabrications of the truth even though it be grounded in the Word of God. Truth is becoming error in our nation—and, likewise, error is becoming truth.

What’s Christ’s instructions for all this? “Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part He is evil spoken of, but on your part He is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other man’s matters. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. The time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.” I Peter 4:12-19. Sounds like Peter learned his lesson. He learned supreme faith and trust in Christ. But, how about us? Have we learned our lesson yet?

In Christ’s service, Pastor Kenny, Sister Chris, and your BTLM family.