



**“In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer;
I have overcome the world” John 16:33b**

Periodical Message (July 2018)

A Word from us,

Shortly before writing ‘The battle is the Lord’s’ in June, we were in Iraq visiting Christian families and talking to leaders. It was nearly ten years since we built our Mission House in Erbil, Iraq but the situation has radically changed...to the worse. We noticed over the years how Muslim neighbours, who were once friendly and kind to our foreign visitors, changing in their attitude towards us. We survived the onslaught of ISIS in 2014, which was not far away from us; just forty miles to the west, the terrible times of terror INSIDE the Autonomous Kurdistan Region and enjoyed the liberation. But the Lord was with us the whole time, like this time too; yes indeed, the battle is the Lord’s. When the demonstrations began in July, in Basrah City in the South, it seemed far from us; but in few days later hundreds were killed and unrest spread to whole of Iraq. IN TIME the Lord moved us to leave Erbil; few days later the so called ‘remnants of ISIS’ attacked and occupied the Governorate Building at the heart of Erbil! Our God IS FAITHFUL...” And the heavens shall praise thy wonders, O LORD: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints” Ps 89:5 – we survived to endure another day with Jesus. Be encouraged...

**Yours in the Lord,
Salman**

A Word according to the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

Citizen of heaven,

As believers in Jesus Christ we are in continuous war and the enemy is trying all his tricks and long experience to weaken, and if possible, destroy our faith and defeat us. Most of the time it is our fault that the enemy gets a ‘foothold’, by sinning; we should not wonder when we are ‘weak and sick’ in the body —this is the enemy’s way.

Many believers think they are like the rest of the world ‘We are just human’ I hear them saying, but we should not forget that believers in Jesus Christ are heaven-born. In fact, in those Bible verses which speak about being “born again,” are more accurately translated as ‘born from above’ (“Jesus answered and said unto him, ‘Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again/born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God’” John 3:3, 7).

It is 1 Peter 1:3 that correctly translates to “born again.” (“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath **begotten us again** unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...”)—please notice that you are **BEGOTTEN** like Jesus!

And 1 Pet 1:23 repeats the same “**Being born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by **the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever**”. The Word is IN heaven and is heavenly--and it is eternal; those who are born of the Word ARE eternal...do you understand? That is why you have Eternal Life, because of your faith in Jesus – The Word, that became flesh.

The apostle John also speaks of believers as being “born of God” (“Which **were born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but **of God**” John 1:13). The same is repeated in 1 John 3:9 “**Whosoever is born of God** doth not commit sin; for His seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because **he is born of God**” The following verses in 1 John 4:7; 1 John 5:1; 4 and 18 repeat and confirm the same.

Since believers are heaven-born their true citizenship and natural dwelling is heaven “For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ...” Phil 3:20.

The life of a Christian is in heaven, where his Head, Christ the Lord, and his home are, and where he hopes to be shortly; he sets his affections upon things above; and where his heart is, there will his conversation be. There is glory kept for the bodies of the saints, in which they will appear at the resurrection. In heaven, everything is free to those who believe in Jesus and heaven is their very inheritance as Jesus Himself assured “Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...” Matt 25:34.

We have so many verses in the Bible confirming the same about WHO we are in Christ and where our ‘Citizenship’ really is; as an example take Ephesians 1:11 “In Whom also we have **obtained an inheritance**, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him Who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will...” (We can also read Hebrews 9:15; 1 Peter 1:4 and also Revelation 21:7, which states “He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son”)

The believers in Jesus are not visitors or guests; they are heaven-born citizens. But our sense of belongingness runs much deeper than mere citizenship. Believers are born into the “household of God,” the very “Family of God” (Ephesians 2:19). If I’m a guest in someone’s house I’m really not free to make myself at home. I cannot raid the refrigerator at night when I’m hungry. I can’t help myself to whatever is in the cupboard. I can’t march into the living room and turn on the TV. I cannot take and drive their car. I must guard myself and remain within the narrow parameters of a guest. But as a “heaven-born” member of God’s family, heaven is your rightful place. It has been purposely created and prepared for you and I, as our Lord Jesus told us in Matthew 25:34. You belong to heaven and heaven belongs to you, but then YOU should behave as such Heaven-Citizen and let the spiritual standards and laws of heaven be visible in your life. Many hymns and songs were written about heaven and the feeling of being a Child of God, based on Psalm 23 Isaac Watts captured this idea by describing his status in heaven as “No more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home” (From hymn ‘My Shepherd Will Supply My Needs’).

Thus, beloved Saints, claim your Citizenship and make it known in heaven and upon earth, by living it, guided by the Spirit of God, and living for His glory. Do NOT be friend of the world, that is: do NOT let the ways of the world and its spirit drag you deep in sin, like it is doing to millions, but bring glory to the Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Prayer Ideas

1. We experienced a lot during July while in Iraq then Lebanon and it was really Divine Intervention which helped and saved us in time; we want to pray and give thanks to our heavenly Father. We thank Him for the Holy Spirit, Who prepared our hearts to understand and move in time; pray with us and give thanks to our Lord.

2. While thinking of WHO we are in Christ Jesus, we want to pray and declare that all our heart's desire is to belong to Jesus and to live with Him forever in heaven. For His sake and for Heaven's sake we renounce all other allegiances that conflict with our divine call. Here and now we want to take our place as children in the family of God and embrace it as our true and eternal identity. Please join our prayer and declare the same for yourself in Jesus holy name Amen.
3. While preparing ourselves for the moving of our Mission House to Ainkawa- The Christian Quarter in Erbil, we continue praying for wisdom, right neighbourhood and finances. Join our prayer and claim the RIGHT place with the right neighbours; ask the Lord to give us favour and open the hearts of those around us. We pray for a peaceful place, where we could humbly serve the Lord and others and be a strong LIGHT for the lost and HELP for those visiting Iraq and working with us.
4. We've been mentioning the Christian Heritage Museum for over a year, always asking you for help to start somewhere; unfortunately the echo was nearly non-existing. But we continue because the Lord is the One Who put it on our hearts and dear brothers, like Brother Saif, invested everything to save what could be saved. We ask you again to please consider your contribution through prayer, asking others to help us build such a Museum or by contributing to building it. Encourage others in Jesus holy name to help us; we have nearly everything necessary to start; may the Holy Spirit touch and move many in Jesus mighty name.
5. We are facing many challenges while serving Jesus; we need your strong and faithful stand with us. Yes, we pray, but we want YOU to stand and be united with us in rebuking the schemes of the enemy and claiming the victory. Keep us covered with the precious blood of Jesus and claim heavenly protection. We ask the Lord to silence those seeking to harm us and pray for them; oh Holy Spirit of the Living God convict them of their sin and silence them, for the glory of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
6. Our 24/7 Prayer Team-JHPH-is praying for many people and issues; join them in their daily prayer. They are praying that our Ministry will prosper the way the Lord wants it to and NOT as we sometimes desire; join them and claim the same. We ask our God to speak to His people, let them have encounters with Him or receive visions from Him; be faithful and steadfast in your prayer.
7. Some families asked us to pray for their suffering children and loved ones; in Jesus holy name we claim relief and deliverance. May the Lord deliver them from the grip of the enemy, as He promised to free us from the trap; and may He relieve them from their sorrows. 'Come to me...' He said and we should go to Him and intercede for others.
8. No clear picture was given to the public by the Media about Iraq, but we LIVED it thus we pray, hopefully with you, for our people and claim peace. We release our nation Iraq from chaos, corruption and violence in Jesus holy name and claim justice. We bind the spirit of Islam/ Antichrist in Jesus holy name and release deliverance upon many claiming their souls for Jesus. Please remember us, our Ministry and work during your daily prayer and be encouraged to PRAY in Jesus mighty name.

Finally we encourage you to keep the Word, live the Calling and continue serving in a humble heart WITHOUT fear, and don't ever forget your joy in the Lord no matter what might happen--- He will never fail you.

We also ask you, dear Saints, to forward our Messages to as many people as you can, whether Christians or else with many thanks. We would love to visit you, if invited to your Church, Prayer Group or else and share our testimony with all the Saints or hear from you. Please let's know through an E-mail containing a phone number to write or call you back. We are waiting for your commentaries; what did the Message tell you and what did the Holy Spirit teach you? If you want us to pray for you or for somebody else, please let us know and we will pass the name/s over to our 24/7 Prayer Team-Jesus Highland Prayer House- JHPH.

Have a \\^I^\\// Blessed Day

“...I will look unto the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me” Micah 7:7