



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

Periodical Message (September 2018)

A Word from us,

In general people have either busyness or business; if you look around that is what you'll see. We are always preoccupied either doing or planning to do something. Amazing isn't it that Adam was occupied ONLY with God—he was spiritual, God-oriented and God-sufficient. We should be like the innocent Adam, trusting that there is God, a Loving Father, who is taking care of all our needs. Our occupation should be: loving Him, by keeping His commandment and allowing the Holy Spirit to accomplish His plan and purpose of our life...like Jesus did. We should NOT sit idle, doing nothing, but should be led by the Spirit. Are you worried about things in your life? Turn back to our God and let Him open your eyes to see what HE has prepared for you “But as it is written, 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” 1 Cor 2:9.

**Yours in the Lord,
Salman**

A Word according to the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

Your and mine unfinished business,

Are you thinking of His coming and the unfinished business in your life? Do you think that you are 'failing' God and not doing His will the way you should? I know many who are even frightened when thinking of this matter!

Those who read the Bible regularly, thus feeding their spirit daily, know that God always has a surprise for them while reading His Living Word. We always receive a new revelation about a subject, a tiny matter and we rejoice. Yes, it tells us our God is alive and the Holy Spirit, as promised by Jesus, is guiding us in the truth and revealing things to us.

There is this matter of the Inner Circle; those Disciples the Lord chose to entrust with few more things, to prepare them for what to come. The Bible tells us “And He said unto them ‘Verily I say unto you, that there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power’” Mk 9:1--- isn't it amazing to hear THAT from the Master?! I can say it was NOT only a revelation but also a challenge. What would YOU do when you hear Jesus telling you THIS?! Go and fast more, pray more, wash more, worship more, study

more...?! That is our human mind and the way we think; yes, religion still has its roots in many a believer's heart. But let's see what unfolded after that." And after six days Jesus taketh with Him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and He was transfigured before them" Mk 9:2. Transfiguration is something supernatural; those three disciples were seeing the Eternal, while still chained to time in the Temporal! Remember, it was just six days earlier Jesus promised 'some' to see the Kingdom of God coming with power. The proof is here; yes they DID see the Kingdom of God "And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus" Mk 9:4. But there is still something that God wants to tell us; we know God's ways are amazing. If we remember Moses and the 'Burning Bush' then we should understand that Moses too faced that supernatural in display "And the Angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed" Ex 3:2. From Moses, though, there was SOMETHING required, that is to take off his shoes/sandals "And He said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground" Ex 3:5. Mark on the other hand surprises all by writing "And His raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them" Mk 9:3--- NO fuller/ launderer is needed. In Matthew we read "And was transfigured before them: and His face did shine as the sun, and His raiment was white as the light" Matt 17:2.

And in Luke we read "And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening" Lk 9:29

THREE witnesses are agreeing about what happened but ONLY the Gospel of Mark has this graphic description of Jesus as He was transfigured before the inner circle of His disciples. All three Synoptic Gospels contain the story of Jesus' Transfiguration atop the "high mountain". All three accounts begin with Jesus' foretelling that some of His disciples will "see" the Kingdom of God coming in power before they die. Thus it's safe to conclude that Jesus was referring to this mountaintop event, in which Jesus would be revealed in His future glorified state. But it's only Mark who mentions that Jesus' garments became "exceedingly white, as no fuller/lauderer on earth can whiten them."

I read the verses of the transfiguration so many times and every time it came to my mind 'But WHY this description?'—I don't know if you asked yourself the same, dear Saints, but it came to my mind often. Well let's think about it; I don't think that Jesus or His disciples had many chances to change or wash their garments. I suspect that, with their fast-paced and relentless schedule, their clothes remained dirty and dusty for long stretches of time. People back then simply didn't have that many changes of clothing. And water to wash them was not abundant in this semiarid/ half-dry region. So by the time Jesus and His three closest disciples summited the high mountain, probably the 2743.2 metres /9,000-foot high Mount Hermon, they were plenty dusty and sweaty.

But instantly, when He was transfigured, Jesus' garments became gleaming white – as no fuller/lauderer on earth could whiten them. **Notice neither Jesus nor His disciples were required to purify themselves with water for this divine encounter.** As Jews, they didn't have to undergo ceremonial washings or change their garments to meet with Moses, Elijah, and God the Father. Amazing isn't it? Not like Moses who HAD to do something. God transfigured Jesus where He stood and glorified Him in His current state, as He was going about His Father's business.

You know, this fact about Jesus' Transfiguration addresses a question that many Christian believers have about the Lord's coming.

What will God do about all the 'unfinished business' in our lives? We are so worried that MANY things are still not done, or not done the way they should. Out there we still have millions, if not billions, without Jesus and we MUST do something. That is true, but we should understand that from the hour we first believe in Jesus, God begins an on-going work of sanctification in our lives. It's the process by which God conforms us into the image of His Son. God the Father applies His discipline – the school of hard knocks, if you will – to us to prepare us for heaven. He uses tribulation and adversity to develop us and make us more and more like Jesus. We read what Paul the Apostle wrote to the Romans "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: and hope maketh not

ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us” Rom 5:3-5. Patience or longsuffering is one of God’s attributes...!

And the writer to the Hebrews writes “Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin and ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children ‘My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him: For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening’. God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the **Father of Spirits**, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby” Hebr 12:4-11

And finally the blessed words of James “My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience” James 1:2-3

But what about those lessons we haven’t learned prior to the time of our departure? What about those weaknesses and sinful habits that we still haven’t overcome when God calls us home? Will God’s saving grace fall short of completing the sanctifying work He began in us?

Oh NO, by no means. It is God Who will finish the good work He began “Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ” Phil 1:6.

There are many other confirmations to this very fact; that it is God Who worketh all things for our benefits/good and finish the work He began. Just hear what St. Jude says that God would do “Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling and to **present you blameless/faultless** before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy” Jude 24.

I want you to consider with me what Paul the Apostle wrote to the deeply troubled Church in Corinth “So that ye come behind in no gift/have every spiritual gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall also confirm you /keep you strong unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord” 1 Corinthians 1:7-9

Yes, God is faithful to do what He promised to do – to save us eternally, because that was His purpose before the foundation of the world. He even gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit as a guarantee that He will consummate our salvation by resurrecting and glorifying us (You can read 2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30).

So God will finish whatever is left undone in our lives; He will take us as we are, soiled garments and all, and transform us into Christ’s image and make our garments shine as no fuller/laundrer on earth can whiten them. You should have faith in His Word, and while keeping His Word and living it, do NOT worry about what HE alone can do. I urge you to keep following Jesus and keep walking in the light of His gospel. And the blood of Jesus Christ will keep on cleansing us with His precious blood, from all sin, when we confess it (1 John 1:7). Be busy in the Lord’s work and God will miraculously and gloriously complete all the unfinished business in your lives. Many are active, showing busyness (Also called: Busy-body) but God wants you to be BUSY with His Kingdom, knowing that ONLY HE ALONE can accomplish what should be done in your as well as in my life. I want you to rejoice with me when reading this verse “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is” 1 Jon 3:2. That is what John the Apostle wrote after experiencing the Presence of God in such a mighty way, like none of us ever did.

May you be always thankful to such a faithful God and I want to give thanks to Him this way “To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen” Jude 25.

Prayer Ideas

1. Join us in giving thanks to our gracious God, Who blessed us and increased our family—Sarah is the new member and just arrived in September, 6th. Pray that we will continue serving Him and you, as called by Him and despite other duties and obligation, which were added to us. Pray for the children to live under the shadow of His Wing and to be obedient to parents.
2. We give honour to you dear Father in heaven and into Your loving and capable hands we commit the broken mess of our life; may You by Your grace keep us saved and continue cleansing and transform us from the inside out. We do cling to Your holy Son Jesus and ask You to conform us daily into His glorious image, in His holy name we pray.
3. Our prayers for the Church in Iraq continue and we ask you to join us; yes, they NEED your prayers to stand the fierce attacks of the enemy. We pray for provision so they could rebuild their destroyed homes, businesses and Churches. We pray that they'll decide to STAY home and not depart and leave Iraq because of lack of security and finances to rebuild. We ask the Lord to keep them protected and safe and to enable them to be His witnesses in a place of sufferance and afflictions.
4. Glory to God for His goodness towards those working with us and helping our Team in Iraq to carry on the good work we started as called by the Lord. Thank the Lord with us that our Team is continuing to do what we used to do and ask the Lord for wisdom. Pray that teaching the Word to believers and reaching out to others, like Muslims, will continue to be at the centre of their work. Pray also for the families, especially old widows, they are taking care of; may they never lack anything, neither material nor spiritual.
5. The Presence of the Lord was visible during our last two Gathering and we feel encouraged to continue; pray that the Lord will confirm the Word we speak. Pray for those coming to the Gathering and claim protection for them and their minds. Ask the Lord with us to continue adding to the Gathering and encouraging others to join our service and be active.
6. Prayers are needed for our orientation and where we should go with the Lord; yes there are invitations for us to ‘...come, join us and work together’ but we ask our Lord Jesus Christ to guide our feet by the Holy Spirit. We want to be there where Jesus wants to put us; we are dedicated to serving Him as we did in Iraq. Proclaim upon us, as a family, but also as Ministry, to follow His Voice, and not our personal ambitions or desires. Moving from one place to another needs finances, but we are but Servants of the Most High and do NOT work for money or have any income/job or pension. Please pray for us and our personal needs too.
7. We will be taking people from Open Doors to Iraq with us in November to see our work and to publish a report about ICOM. Pray with us and claim protection, because we are going literally to a very hostile environment. Ask the Lord for favour for every step we take and everywhere we go. We intend to visit biblical sites where Nahum the Prophet was born and lived; where Jonah was in Nineveh and where ancient Churches were built over 1400 years ago in the Valley of Nineveh. God willing we will go to the ancient city of the mighty Nimrud. Keep us covered with your prayers and encourage others to do the same.

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. We also 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 just let's know. 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-JHPH (Jesus Highland Prayer House)

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