



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

Periodical Message (March 2019)

A Word from us,

I ‘vanished’ for nearly two weeks, away from family and friends to be shut up with the Lord, alone with Jesus to spend a time of deep fellowship. When you are alone with Jesus, your body hungry and weakened and you’re reading the Word of God through the whole day, you discover how much you missed. Suddenly eating is no more priority, hunger has no control of you and the Spirit is so near that you could touch Him! In one of those Days of Seclusion I was reminded of an old song which goes this way ‘Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me...’--- and then you could literally FEEL the Spirit. He was the whole time there, but our worries and ‘engagements’ keep us busy...and blind our senses to feel Him. I wanted my prayer to start this way every time I kneel before my Lord ”Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me” Ps 51:10 may YOU join me, dear lover of Christ and do the same. It might be a small investment, but it is the RIGHT one; be encouraged to invest in His Kingdom.

**Yours in the Lord,
Salman**

A Word according to the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

Do you invest wisely?

People are investing in everything, making money for the ‘bad day’ just in case things go wrong; this is the mind of natural man. The Scripture also repeatedly encourages all believers to invest...where? In God’s Eternal Kingdom while we are on earth and have the power to do so, though there are certainly better things to store up and wiser investments to make for life on earth. But we only have a limited time on this earth to invest what is Temporal – our time, energy, and resources – to store up treasure in heaven in the Eternal. Our Lord Jesus gave us this advice: “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” **Matt 6:19-21.**

The Bible also tells us that by showing mercy to the poor we are actually “lending to God” and He will repay us in heaven with a phenomenal interest “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will He pay him again” **Pro 19:17.** In the past I always meditated upon this Verse and couldn’t imagine myself lending My God something, knowing that

‘Heaven and earth are the Lord’s’!! Today I have a better understanding when hearing our Lord Jesus telling us that, when we take care of the needs of others, we are actually blessing Him – an act of charity which will have eternal ramifications as **Matt 25:31-46** tells us. Hear with me, oh believer in Jesus Christ, what our Lord says “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—yes, we shall inherit the Kingdom, just because we were blessing Jesus through our charitable deeds!

Once I read about a German man who was collecting one- or two-pfennig coins through his whole life, but never had the opportunity of counting them or knowing how much he collected. I certainly don’t know what motivated him to do so; it might seem wise, but to accumulate over 1.2 million coins, which weigh more than two and a half tons in his life time is amazing. Still is it worth it, if the amount was less than ten thousand dollars...the ‘saving’ of a lifetime?! I am sure he was ‘pleased’ to see the pile growing everyday but he did not know the value. When his lifetime’ saving was distributed among his four children, they nearly got nothing; not very impressive, is it? There are wiser ways to invest these days and we, as believers in Jesus Christ, should invest differently, always having Kingdom’s Value before our eyes. We should not follow the example of others and invest in a world which one day won’t be anymore. Our investment should show which values we cherish and which Lord we follow.

Dear believer in the Lord, giving of our time, energy, and resources to the cause of God’s Eternal Kingdom represents the wisest investment anyone can possibly make and we should do as the Lord commanded. If you know, or remember the missionary Jim Elliott, please listen to what he said AND keep in mind he died at the hands of those he was reaching out to with the gospel “**He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose**”--- what a statement!

This man of God gave his life for the cause of the Gospel, but heaven knows that he is HOME and certainly the Lord was pleased with him, because he ‘stored riches in heaven’.

There is also a fictional character called Peter Bailey (from the movie ‘It’s a Wonderful Life’) who hung a motto in his office that read ‘You can only take with, that which you give away’— If you ask me, there is never a truer word than this for us believers. If we give up our life we will keep it; that is what Jesus told us. Like the grain, if it does not die, there won’t be any increase or harvest. This is the season of giving, dear in the Lord, and it is your turn to be generous toward those who are in need; we don’t mean only in Iraq or other Hotspots in the world. There are those NEAR you who might need your TIME to listen to them, or a word of encouragement from your mouth or a hug that might comfort them. Please invest your fleeting resources to secure an enduring treasure in heaven, because that is the will of our Lord. Our blessed Lord Jesus said ‘Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy’ **Matt 5:7**; in our dark world, tell me who doesn’t need mercy?! But let me put it the other way round: WHO is willing to SHOW mercy or be merciful among us, those who obtained mercy from God?!

I am taking an example on ‘investment from the Bible to show you HOW we should do it. Let’s take the ‘investment’ of Paul the Apostle in Athens. Let me tell you, dear brother, if you really want to reach people for Jesus, follow this example; it is one of the greatest investments for the Kingdom of God. While in Athens, Paul became distressed over the huge number of people worshipping idols and false gods. He knew how deeply embedded these rituals were in their culture and he realized that in order to reach them, he needed to gain their trust. He spent time with the people (Read: Invested his time), learning about their values and beliefs and absorbing their culture. Paul the Apostle was living out the very philosophy of evangelism that he wrote about in his letter to the Church at Corinth: “To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some” **1 Corinthians 9:22**. He was investing, with Kingdom Values before his eyes, to ‘have some saved’. I want you to see how he invested Wisdom and humbleness to gain people for Christ, so when a group of philosophers heard him preaching about Jesus on the streets and in the synagogue, they took him to a meeting to argue with him. They were armed and ready for a fight but Paul wisely laid aside his hostility and used the Athenians’ hunger for spiritual knowledge to his favour. Surrounded by the sculptured images of the many gods they worshiped, he began by commending them for their interest in seeking the truth: “Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars’ hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all

things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, Him declare I unto you” **Acts 17:22-23**.

What an investment; instead of insulting their intelligence, Paul used their hunger for knowledge to his advantage and complimented them on their diligent searching. Very wise investment because when he had their attention, he shared the truth of Jesus Christ. Through this tactful approach and wise investment, Paul the Apostle was able to break down the barriers and reach many hardened people for Christ. Our God, Who wants all men to be saved is telling you today ‘Are you willing to sacrifice your time, humble yourself and invest in My Kingdom in order to have a great harvest?!’ I pray that your answer will be a strong ‘YES LORD!’ because God needs people who are willing to invest in His Kingdom, by using the available temporary in their hands. He wants us to embrace sinners and gently guide them to the truth of his Word; without investing with compassionate hearts with a compelling message none would be brought to the Lord.

My prayer for you today, Sanctified of the Lord, that you would reconsider investing your available resources, whether time or compassion; wisdom or sleep; humbleness or money to advance the Kingdom of the Living God. I pray, that our Jesus would help you evaluate your ‘investments’ in this world and direct your steps on His ways in order to invest wisely. May He, the only true and living God help us to do His will before the Second Coming of Christ. Amen.

Prayer Ideas

1. Unit with us and remember the time our Lord spent on earth, walking among people, touching and healing them and restoring their lives. Pray that the Holy Spirit would guide you in this journey of remembering what our Lord Jesus did on earth and DO the same. Ask our God to give you a Heart of David when you bow down before His throne and pray. Ask the Lord as the Psalmist did “Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit” **Ps 51:12**.

When remembering the lost ask for guidance HOW to speak to them and let your ‘sacrifices’ to God be a broken spirit and remember God will not despise a broken and a contrite heart.

2. Pray with the Saints ‘Oh dear Father in heaven, please grant that my heart may never become hardened by the adversities and disappointments of life. Make my heart sensitive and compassionate toward the needs of others. Make me a blessing, dear Father, to all those around me and help me to always invest in your Kingdom, whether through my time, compassion, money or other means. Amen.

3. While remembering the Church of Jesus Christ under persecution in this world, pray with us for protection ‘Protect oh Lord your people in giving them the power to forgive those persecuting them; help oh Lord those suffering injustice because of your name. Encourage them to love their enemies as YOU did love us while we were sinners and children of wrath. We pray oh Lord and claim protection in Jesus holy name. Amen’

4. We asked the Lord to guide us through this time of the year, remember the sufferance of our Lord and asking for guidance in Fast & Prayer—be encouraged to PRAY in Jesus holy name and to join us and many who are labouring with us. You could fast according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and according to the Word of God (Isa 58:6-7) and may your prayers be Availing Prayer moving the mountain of oppression and pain. For each and every one of you we claim strength from the Lord to continue doing God’s Will and to be prepared for His Coming.

5. Our God is a wise God and on Him we depend; pray with us and proclaim success everywhere He is sending us. In Jesus holy name we claim great harvest whether in our service in Jordan or in Iraq when we go and serve others. We trust that our Lord will keep us protected, and if needed HE is the One to decide when to lower the hedge around us or not. In faith we go and serve Him, bringing the Good News to a lost world and encouraging His people to keep the faith. Pray with us in unity and claim salvation for many; call things which are not, as if there were and take many lost souls with you to Jesus and help us to do God’s will. Your prayer today could decide about our world tomorrow.

6. The Lord opened the way again for us to go to Amman, Jordan and serve Him and His people, the persecuted Iraqi Christian refugees, thus we ask for your prayers. Pray that the doors which our Jesus has opened will be used for the expansion of His Kingdom. Ask the Lord for favour and keep

us covered with His precious blood. Proclaim the mighty presence of the Holy Spirit while we are serving and claim healing to the wounded hearts. We promised to support the refugees through the local Church, represented through Abuna Benjamin from St. Afram Syriac Church in Amman, with two thousand US dollars a month; please pray for provision for them and us. (Please read our Ministry Report Erbil-29. March 2019)

7. The fifth anniversary of the fall of Mosul in the hands of ISIS is approaching and the Lord helped us to prepare a book to remember; it should show what the evil power could do, but also our efforts to serve the Lord and help His people. Pray that we could manage everything in time and, guided by the Spirit, put the right pictures and write the right word. Ask the Lord for wisdom, discerning eyes and humble hearts in order to accomplish the task according to God's heart. If prompted by the Spirit and you want to be of help, please let's know. An invitation is extended to anyone who wants to go with us to Iraq and serve or join our service during the occasion.

8. We've been praying about our going to the United States to serve the Lord and His people; join our prayers HOW to be used by the Lord. To the believers in the States we inform you about our coming in the Fall (September, 10th to November, 1st). Please PRAY first and then come to us when prompted by the Holy Spirit; let's know WHEN do you want us to serve in your Church, Prayer Group, Home Group...or else. We pray that many will respond in time in order to finalize our Schedule; please let's know whether we should hold a Seminar about Islam and its impact on society or hold a Seminar about our faith. We could give a testimony about what God's been doing in the Middle East through our Ministry and other ways.

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