

THE PROPHETIC CORNER

VOLUME 1
ISSUE 8

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Newsletter
MAR 2010

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In our last newsletter, we talked about prayer. This newsletter centers on a core issue. An issue that is so important, I can not even begin to express how important it is. I have written on many subjects since the start of this newsletter, but this one hits the very core of our being as humans. If we have established a relationship with God the Father, what happens next? What happens after we submit to the Lordship of Jesus?

This newsletter is about the single most important issue I could address. That is... (Are you ready?) ...Obeying God's commands.

Many things may come to mind when you hear this statement. You may think I am going to get legalistic and harp on all the do's and don'ts. However, that is not it at all. It is about living out our relationship with Him and what we need to pursue in order to keep the fire burning.

You see, much like any relationship, we need to cultivate it. Let me use an example from life. Let's say a man and a woman get married and have a beautiful wedding. After the wedding, they have a wonderful honeymoon and set off to live their lives together. The husband is wonderful. He goes to work, keeps up the house, helps with the chores, etc. The wife does likewise. She keeps the house, shops for food, cooks, and takes care of everything else. However, something is wrong! They never talk. In fact, they just take care of what they need to do and that is it. They don't talk to each other, they don't love on each other, nor do they even try. Now, I ask you, how long do you think that relationship will last? This relationship is one day doomed to failure. While they do everything one could expect, they don't take care of what is really important. They, like robots, just follow a prescribed program never really touching the heart.

At one point in my Christian life, I was much like this. I warmed a church pew once or twice a week, sang a few hymns, and heard a sermon or two. As stated above, it felt like a robotic program to follow and it just lacked heart.

When we truly grasp what God has commanded us, we will then be able to touch His heart. Likewise, He will be able to touch ours! The relationship will then begin to grow. In the pages that follow, I want to explore the commands of God. I want to look at what commands are the most important to Him. The Bible is filled with commands from God. Does God really expect us to obey them all? How can that be possible? Jesus says this in the book of John, chapter 14:23-24a

²³Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. ²⁴He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings:

A word about The Word

First, we must establish a measurement for obeying God's commands. How do we know what to obey? I mean, if we take God's Word to the literal end, then that can also be a downfall. I am sure some of you are shouting heresy at this point, but please bear with me. For example, what do you do with Mark 9:43 that says, if our hand causes us to sin; we are to cut it off, for it is better to enter life with one hand than have two and be thrown into hell? I guess I could say my hand has caused me to sin more than once, does that mean I need to mutilate myself to enter heaven? This would be an obscured interpretation in the light of the rest of scripture that God would want us mutilate ourselves just to be free of sin.

All scripture is: [2 Timothy 3:16](#) "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

The Apostle Paul makes the point clear about what to obey when he uses the word "all." We must look at all of scripture, not just parts of it, to get a clear picture of what God commands. Timothy then goes on to explain the purpose of scripture, giving four key areas: doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. This is our base.

YOU study to show yourself approved: [2 Timothy 2:15](#) "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

The Apostle Paul addresses our responsibility in this verse as he puts forth God's command concerning His Word. God commands us to study His word, but not only that, we are to study to show ourselves approved unto Him. The last part of this command is very important because, in essence, it says do not take His Word out of context. The only way to avoid doing that is to commit to studying. It seems simple, yet so complete.

The Holy Spirit Guides us into all truth: [John 16:13](#) "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come."

The last part of this is so powerful. It captures the very heart of God and His relationship with us. God commands us to study His Word and in that, He makes provision for us to find truth. This provision allows us not to be ashamed and to rightly divide His Word. God gives us commands to obey and He makes provision for us to obey them. This concept of command and provision is repeated throughout scripture. He provides His precious promises to us, so we can obey His commands.

God has provided a way for us find out truth, to know truth, and to live it out. If we follow this path in the study of His Word and let His Spirit guide us into all truth as we embrace ALL His Word, we will always walk in truth and will not be misled by false doctrine or twisted beliefs.

The Cart before the Horse

We must NOT take God's Word and filter it through our churches doctrine or through what others are teaching.

This statement is truly the cart before the horse. Our enemy the devil would like nothing more than to have us do this. As we study the Bible, it pulls us into a deeper understanding and revelation by His Holy Spirit. We, on the other hand, do not pull the Bible along with us as we believe. We learn God's Word, and under the leading of the Holy Spirit, we grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. This opens the eyes of our spirit man to walk as Jesus walked and to obey His commands.

We must take what others are teaching and the doctrines of men, and filter them through God's Word.

Obeying a Byproduct

Now, I would like to address the questions from page one, I asked these two questions. Does God expect us to obey all His commands and is that really possible? I already explained on page two how he has provided His precious promises for us to do that. However, let's go even deeper and look at the Words of Jesus in Matthew 22:36-40.

36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law? 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Think of it, Jesus was asked, "What is the greatest commandment in all the law?" In verse 37-40, you see what His response was. When we fulfill these two commands, we will obey all His commands. Again, it is not about religion with Jesus, it is about relationship. He wants you to Love Him, love others, and then you will have obeyed all the commands in scripture. First, you love and then you obey. You establish relationship with Jesus, and then you obey. You cultivate your relationship with Him, and then you obey. Finding a Church and warming a pew is great, but if you want to obey all that God commands, we need to learn to love Him first and then love others.

Learning to Love God

Learning to Love God is the key to obeying His commands. This is not a selfish endeavor. We don't love God for what we can get from Him. We love Him because of who He is and what He did for us. The Bible says that we love Him because He first loved us (1John 4:19). If we have an established relationship with the Father, than we know how He first loved us. He sent His one and only begotten Son to earth to die for us and then rise from the dead. Why did the Father do this? For two reasons, first, because He loves us so much, and second, was so we could establish a relationship with the Father through Jesus. Jesus would no longer live in some building made by the hands of men; He could now live in our hearts. God did not send His Son to establish some religion, He sent His Son to establish a relationship with mankind. Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection paved the way for our restoration, restitution, redemption, salvation, healing, peace, joy, saneness, soundness, wholeness, etc. No other religion in the world can make that claim. Search the scripture and see how others sought God as they prayed, fasted, praised Him, sang to Him, danced before Him, humbled their hearts, bowed their knees, learned the scripture etc. Why did they do this? Because when you love on God and you touch His heart, He will touch yours. Then and only then will you know you are truly alive and that is where the real power of the Christian Faith is. Glory to God!

Don't walk on Wood

This last week while reading God's word, the Lord spoke a word to me that seemed very strange. He said, "Don't walk on wood." I thought, "What in the world does that mean?" I picked up one of my reference books and looked up the word "wood" and how it related to scripture. Wood is a natural object that lends itself well to human manipulation. Prophetically, it is a worthless human doctrine that opposes the word or work of the Spirit of God. Jeremiah 10:8 "a wooden idol is a worthless doctrine" (The Prophets Dictionary, by Paula A. Price).

Man has devised and written many doctrines about God, some of which are firm and true. Unfortunately, some of them are soft and without any substantial contextual scriptural backing. They do nothing but enslave people devoted to them into religious rituals rather than to a deeper relationship with Jesus. I would rather place myself in the hands of Jesus and let Him teach me. I can be assured of this, that in that place, God's Spirit will guide me into all truth.

ARK MINISTRIES

Our Vision

Helping you fulfill God's promises and calling in your Life

Reaching a lost world for Jesus Christ

Providing strength for God's people.

Our Mission

We are called to help believers grow, equip them to serve and to activate them for ministry in the service of our Lord

We are called to reach the lost by living a life that shows the love of God to those around us. We are called to care for one another as the body of Christ

We are called to encourage one another to fulfill the Great Commission, preaching the Good News

An Invitation

Ark Ministries would like to invite you to join us. We are committed to letting the Holy Spirit lead the service. So come expecting God to move and speak as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Service times Sunday

9:30 a.m. Intercession

10:00 a.m. Service

Location:

Allen Park Civic Center Ice Arena

15800 White Ave.

Allen Park, MI 48101

For More information please visit our Web Site

www.arkministrieshome.com

Author Comments and Bio

We hope you and pray it was Davis has been over thirty served in many including wor-



Pray His will

enjoyed this issue a blessing. Jerry serving the Lord for years. He has areas of the church ship leader, youth, and men's ministry. He has been married for eighteen years to his lovely wife Carol and they have two beautiful children. Jerry has been with Ark Ministries from its beginnings. "I finally found a home where my gift can grow and it has". Jerry currently attends Destiny School of Ministry Apostle and Prophets Institute.

Questions or comments to the Author or to be added to the monthly distribution. Please

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