

# RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP

Vol. 3 No. 1, Jan. 02, 2009

1 John 5: 14-15 – *This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked for.*



## PRAYER AND TRUST

E.M. Bounds, in speaking of prayer and its correlation to trust, says: “To faith, prayer is indissolubly joined. Faith gives it (prayer) color and tone, shapes its character and secures its results. Trust is faith become absolute, ratified, consummated.”

Trust is the extension of faith, or as Bounds states, it is the perfection of faith. Faith grabs hold of truth and believes, even though it cannot see the result. Trust grabs hold of nothing and does the same thing.

It is ultimate trust that allows one who is praying to realize that God not only is answering, but has already answered. From where does this trust come? It comes from God but it comes through the spirit, not the mind. It comes from yielding in absolute surrender. It comes from praying in the ultimate, allowing God to perform in and through us as He chooses.

How quickly can we reach such a power in Christ that we can pray with this kind of trust? It does not come quickly. There is much that we must learn from Jesus regarding trust and regarding prayer. Many of us will learn

through failure. That’s okay. Ultimate trust is a gift but it is a gift that comes through much yielding and drawing ever closer to the Lord.

God will grant you His mind regarding how to pray and that for which you are to be praying. He will anoint you in prayer; you will realize that, according to His word (1 John 5:14-15), as you pray in His will, He will, in fact, hear and respond. **Heaven is acting on your prayer – not because of you, but because of He to whom you belong.**

When the Church finally understands how to pray and how to pray in God’s will, the earth will be shaken by the power of the response to that massive corporate sweet-smelling incense rising to Heaven.

## WHY PRAYER IS SO IMPORTANT TODAY

We live at the apex of history. We are living at the End of the Age of which Jesus spoke so clearly (Matt. 24). There are too few that really understand how close we are to the fulfillment of the final-days Scriptures.

God has raised up, and is still raising up, a holy remnant at this time in

history. This remnant is made up of those who are willing to serve God on His terms; it is made up of radical disciples.

There is revival happening right now in the underground Church throughout the world. And we, here in America, are going to be part of this great new awakening of God’s Holy Spirit. **It is not time to be frightened; it is time to be excited.** It is not time to horde things so that you can escape the economic disaster that has come and is coming upon the entire earth; it is time to toss everything aside except for your relationship with Jesus. He is enough. It is not time to worry about the size of your Church or the amount of your paycheck; it is time to cast aside every encumbrance and to become part of the holy remnant of God.

Whereas there is now severe persecution in the Church in more than 50 nations worldwide, we must understand that Jesus promised persecution for all of us. We are fortunate to be citizens of the United States, but we are also destined to be vilified for our stand in Christ. And every day, it will be more difficult, but also more blessed, to stand for

Him regardless of the result of doing so.

**It is vital for each of us to realize that God, in His sovereignty and His infinite wisdom, chose for each of us to be living at this time in history.** Remember, God knew us thousands of years ago. He chose, at that time, to keep us until this unbelievable era. **We are not here by circumstance. We are here by the will of God.** And there is no-one who is exempt from God's will. If you are a Christian today, God has called you to be part of this anointed remnant that He has kept for Himself, to bring about His will upon the earth.

**If your Christianity has been comfortable and convenient, God is telling you that immense danger lies in serving Him in that manner. It is not coincidence that so many are being raised up, throughout the world, to serve God at the highest level possible. We are inside the door of the greatest move of God in history. Don't let it slip away, friend.**

Not only must we, then, yield totally to Him so that He can conform us to the likeness of Jesus (Rom. 8:29), but we must understand, learn, and participate in anointed prayer on an ongoing basis. And we must pray with trust. We

must know that we can pray according to God's perfect will; that He will hear us; and that He will perform that which he anointed us to pray.

Isa. 55:10-11-*As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.*

Let us not take lightly that to which God has called us at this time. Each of us, as Christians, has a ministry of prayer – intercessory prayer. The Holy Spirit will teach us daily how to pray; and in doing so, assure us that we are praying according to God's will.

We must know that the Lord is in the process of bringing about the greatest revival ever. He is about to unleash His mighty power upon this earth, through His remnant, to heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out devils, and draw astronomical numbers of people to Himself. And these things are already happening in great force in various places throughout the world.

**WE ARE THE REMNANT OF GOD**

We are that remnant. Don't think for a minute that your purpose on earth is to be successful in business, to raise a family, to keep up with the Jones', or to amass a garage full of things and a fat retirement. **Your purpose is to be conformed to the likeness of Jesus.** Your purpose is to become nothing so that the everything that God is can and will operate through you, to bring Heaven to earth.

Friends, as these things come to pass, you do not want to be on the outside looking in. You want to be on the inside, reaching out.

Those in whom God has put His Spirit, with power, are going to be part of a Church whose all-cleansing fire will be seen and felt throughout the world. At the same time, the apostate Church will separate itself from the true Church for obvious reasons. It will have already (and in most cases, has already) shaken hands with the devil in compromise and will not be able to withstand the heat that God will be generating in the true Church. Don't be surprised when the world, including our own United States, embraces the apostate Church and vilifies and persecutes the true Church.

Don't be frightened, friend. Persecution, like every other promise of the Bible, is a blessing, though in obvious disguise. **We must embrace suffering, and we can only**

**do so under the power of Almighty God.** That is why we can no longer put off serving God on His terms. The time is NOW!

## LEARNING TO PRAY

We must learn to pray according to God's will. Most of us learn to pray in our prayer closets. It is there that we can throw ourselves on God's mercy and allow Him to teach us and mold us. We must learn to pray in silence. It is in silence that the Lord will teach us, speak to us, and help us learn to know His voice.

Ps. 46:10-*Be still and know that I am God.*

We see this verse often in Scripture. God wants us to know Him; He wants us to fellowship with Him; He wants to teach us; He wants us to learn the sweet sense of His voice. Learn to sit quietly before the Lord. Pay no attention to the thoughts and things that rattle through your mind. **Don't fight them. Ignore them.** Let God be God. He will teach you.

Then as we learn how to pray, it is vital that we spend considerable time in corporate pray. It is there that the Church becomes strong; that strongholds are broken; that lives are changed; that barriers and demonic infrastructures are toppled. God's desire is to rescue every captured soul; to take back towns, cities, states and nations from the clutches of

the enemy; to restore the world's finances to those whom God has chosen to use them; and to raise His holy name higher and higher – all this in the midst of the most egregious demonic onslaught known to man. *But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short* (Rev. 12:12).

And you have been chosen by God, friend, to play a part in this final act. But you must surrender absolutely; you must serve God on His terms; you must put aside every encumbrance and set your face like flint. You must learn to trust God wholeheartedly, and you must pray with that same trust.

E.M. Bounds says: "When trust is perfect and without doubt, prayer is simply the outstretched hand, ready to receive." When your trust is operating in the ultimate, you, too, may stretch out your hands to God. Watch what He will do!

A prayer time that is tepid in fervor and callous regarding sincerity is not pleasing to God. Dare we go to prayer apathetically? With no deep desire to pray? Certainly, there are times when we find ourselves in that exact position. Do we have our short, powerless prayer time anyway? Or do we fall on our faces and plead with God to rekindle the desire in our hearts so that we might pray in His power and,

in doing so, offer a pleasing fragrance to Him?

Have you been asked by God to wrestle with principalities and powers? Have you been asked to look to the Heavens which suffer violence and then, in His name and by His power, take them back by force? Are you not aware as a yielded Christian, walking on the narrow road to holiness, that you have enlisted in the army of Heaven? That you have a responsibility to your Commander-in-chief, the Captain of the Lord's Host, to be available to be tossed into the battle at a moment's notice?

There is intense warfare being waged in the heavens now, today. And we are the war-time vessels through whom God will bring about His will regarding that siege against His Church. As you have more readily yielded yourself to God, haven't you had the sense that you were entering a holy place, a place where few have trod? Didn't you have the sense that you were going to learn and understand new things, hidden from most of Christendom? Welcome to the Holiness of God Almighty! This is why He has chosen you as part of His remnant. God is building a mighty army on earth and you are part of it.

**WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

We must understand that we are in the midst of this mighty move of God. He is already doing marvelous things in various places throughout the world, but we have much more to learn. Let us set our faces like flint; let us determine to serve God only, to allow God to be our only priority. Let us put aside all other things; they are only going to pass away, anyway – and sooner rather than later. Let us spend serious time in prayer, learning how to serve the Lord, learning how to pray according to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Let us learn to know God, to spend time with Him, to cultivate a relationship with Him. Let us learn to know His sweet voice. And let us determine that nothing, absolutely nothing will deter us from our goal, to become a part of this holy remnant that God has put aside for Himself.

Ps. 4:3 – *Know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself.* I believe that this is a word from God that is to be a foundation on which this remnant can stand. God, Himself, has set us apart. And because He has, He will do the work necessary to make us like Jesus. But we must allow Him to. Throw off every outside encumbrance, friend. Yield everything to God – your job, your family, your love, your hobbies, your wallet, your retirement, your passions. **He wants all of you. And when**

**He has all of you, you will also have all of Him.**

Know that you are living at a time in which millions of mighty men and women of God, who went before you, would have loved to have been a part. But God chose you. Don't take it lightly. He hasn't.

Welcome to Radical Discipleship! Welcome to the holy remnant of God! And if you think: "How could God possibly use a worm such as me," every mighty man and woman of God before you thought the same thing. It is through we worms that the kingdom of God is exacted.

## **RAD. DISC. SEMINAR**

**Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009 at 7:15PM, Peter Hess will be teaching a Radical Discipleship seminar each Tuesday for several weeks – at Cornerstone Fellowship (66 Waverly Dr. – behind the Fredericktowne Mall, next to Ollie's Outlet). All are welcome.**

**RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP** is created and published by Peter Hess through PDH Writings, Inc. The information in this publication is not necessarily the opinion of any particular church or denomination. The author

takes full responsibility for its content.

To view prior messages, please visit the website listed at the end of this publication and *click* on Radical Discipleship Newsletters in the upper right corner of the Home Page of the website.

If you would prefer to have this publication e-mailed or to add new subscribers, please contact Peter at the email address at the end of this publication. Please note: there is no cost to subscribers nor do we accept donations regarding these publications.

Please call or e-mail for permission to copy or distribute this publication. In most cases, permission will be granted.

Peter Hess is the author of multiple non-fiction Christian books and Christian fiction novels that are sold nationwide. More information is available on the website.

Website:

[www.peterhessbooks.com](http://www.peterhessbooks.com)

E-Mail:

[peter@peterhessbooks.com](mailto:peter@peterhessbooks.com)

**GOD BLESS YOU!!**

**BE RADICAL FOR GOD!!!**