

RIVERS OF LIVING WATER



*Where Is The
Sacrifice?*

ISSUE XVII. SUMMER '10

Table Of CONTENTS

Devotional

STREAMS IN THE DESERT PAGE 2

Words Of Encouragement By A.B. Simpson

Sermons

WHERE IS THE SACRIFICE? PAGE 3-4

Message By Pastor Duke Downs

LIKE A DOVE PAGE 5-7

Message By Pastor Daren Downs

Harvest Time Reports

EGYPT UPDATE PAGE 8

By Pastor Daren Downs

IRAQ UPDATE PAGE 9

By Pastor Daren Downs

ARMENIA UPDATE PAGE 10

By Missionary Evangelist Bill Casey

GEORGIA UPDATE PAGE 11

By Pastor Daren Downs

THE SPIRIT OF GOD MOVING IN OUR MIDST PAGE 11

By Missionary Jay Prasad

STREAMS IN THE DESERT DEVOTIONAL

“He that ministereth let us wait on our ministering” (Rom. xii. 7).

BELOVED, are you ministering to Christ? Are you doing it with your hands? Are you doing it with your substance and with what you have? Is He getting the best of what is most real to you? Has He a place at your table? And when He does not come to fill the chair, is it free to His representative, His poor and humble children? Your words and wishes are cheap if they do not find expression in your actual gifts. Even Mary did not put Him off with the incense of her heart, but laid her costliest gifts at His feet.

Ye busy women, who work so hard to dress your children and furnish your houses and tables, what have your hands earned for the Master, what have you done or sacrificed for Jesus? “Can you afford it?” was asked of a noble woman, as she promised a costly offering for the Master’s work. “No,” was her noble reply, “but I can sacrifice it.” Let us to-day look around us and see what we do and give more to the loving Saviour, who gave up His whole life for us.

~A.B. Simpson, *Days Of Heaven Upon Earth*

Where Is The Sacrifice?

BY PASTOR DUKE DOWNS

- 1Kgs. 18:21 *And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.*
- 1Kgs. 18:22 *Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.*
- 1Kgs. 18:23 *Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:*
- 1Kgs. 18:24 *And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.*
- 1Kgs. 18:25 *And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under.*
- 1Kgs. 18:26 *And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.*
- 1Kgs. 18:27 *And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.*
- 1Kgs. 18:28 *And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.*
- 1Kgs. 18:29 *And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.*
- 1Kgs. 18:30 *And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down.*
- Ex. 29:39 *The one lamb thou shalt offer in the morning; and the other lamb thou shalt offer at even:*
- Ex. 29:40 *And with the one lamb a tenth deal of flour mingled with the fourth part of an hin of beaten oil; and the fourth part of an hin of wine for a drink offering.*
- Ex. 29:41 *And the other lamb thou shalt offer at even, and shalt do thereto according to the meat offering of the morning, and according to the drink offering thereof, for a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD.*
- Rom. 12: 1 *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*
- Rom. 12: 2 *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Like the Church of Ephesus in Revelation 2:2-4, God said, *"I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love."* In all of our discerning and outward works, we've left our first love.

Church, it's so easy to discern and mock the false, but if ever we needed the fire, if ever we needed the glory of God to fall, it's now. It's not enough to just discern the false or to mock the false. Like Elijah, we can mock all we want, but we must remember in a few hours it's going to be Elijah's turn to offer his sacrifice and call the fire down. We've laughed, we've mocked, but get ready in a few hours our turn is coming and we must produce or it's over for us. We need the anointing of the Holy Ghost, we need to return to the foundations of our Pentecostal roots. Nothing short of a move of the Holy Ghost in our churches is going to restore and bring real revival. Nothing short of the fire from heaven is going to restore the church and make it ready for the return of Jesus Christ.

Just look at Elijah after he had mocked the prophets of Baal, they prayed, they prophesied all day long, and they were expecting the fire to fall. The people had said, "We'll serve the God that answers by fire." They expected it to come upon their altar, but the Bible said there was none that answered.

We certainly don't have any shortage of prophets and prophetesses prophesying in this hour, but one thing I can tell you is we do have a shortage of fire. Why? Because we have a shortage of sacrifices.

The Bible says at the time of the evening sacrifice Elijah repaired the altar of God that was fallen down, taking twelve stones, he built an altar unto the name of the Lord. We must do more than mock, we must preach Jesus Christ again like we've never preached Him before. We must live Christ, breathe Christ, walk Christ, talk Christ, to this final generation.

The prophets of Baal in our day have turned the attention away from Jesus Christ; it's all about me, myself, and I. We

have doctrines in our Pentecostal movement today leading to the wrong altar. There is no other name given among men whereby we must be saved, the altar of Jesus Christ must be repaired. What a price we are now paying for our neglect of the altar of Jesus Christ.

The church born on the day of Pentecost in the Book of Acts paid a high price to produce what was in the upper room. They knew they were signing their own death warrants. The devil knew then and now if he could shut the church up, about this Christ, the entire church would go down the drain. We can have religion and doctrines without Jesus Christ. We can preach prosperity without Jesus Christ, a positive confession, and a high self-esteem, but to preach only about what Christ will give you will always lead to idolatry. It is Christ alone that can redeem us, and it's Christ that we must



preach in this final hour.

We must build an altar to the name of the Lord. About the time of the evening sacrifice, Elijah restored the altar placing the wood in order; he cut the bullock in pieces and placed it on the wood.

We've spent this last forty years getting the wood in order, getting the equipment, getting the technology, but it is not the wood that brings revival. It takes a sacrifice to bring the fire. The fire is not going to fall on the wood; the fire only falls on the sacrifice and it will never fall on an empty altar.

When the man of God offered the bullock, the fire came from heaven and consumed the sacrifice. Four hundred-fifty false prophets and priests died that day because of one prophet's sacrifice. Saints, I don't think we realize how much power there is to change circumstances and situations if the church would one more time put itself on the altar of sacrifice. There's power in prayer and the saddest thing is, Satan knows it better than

the church does, that's why he works so hard to keep you and I off of our altar.

In Ex. 29 – The Bible says there is a morning sacrifice and there is an evening sacrifice. The morning sacrifice is a blood sacrifice where the beast is slain, his blood is caught in vessels and poured out onto the altar and the body of the beast is taken outside the city and is destroyed. This is what Jesus Christ did for us when He hung on the cross and poured out His blood upon the altar of God. Heb. 13 – Tells us that He suffered outside the camp. His body was destroyed, His blood poured out for you and me, thus He fulfilled the morning sacrifice that saved us from our sin.

Now Rom. 12:1-2 is the evening sacrifice that's us. *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."*

If you and I will present our bodies as a living sacrifice, not just once in a while or half-hearted, but with a willing and a determined mind that God, here I am like the widow woman in Lk. 18 – It was her continual coming, her I don't know how to quit attitude, that Jesus not only commended, but said when I come back will I find this kind of faith on the earth. If I don't get my answer today, I will tomorrow, if I don't get it tomorrow, I will be back the next day. How many times will I come back expecting my answer?

In the second half of Heb. 11, they all died in the faith having not received the promise. They died expecting, looking, persevering, and believing. We're not of those that draw back but we're of those that believe, persevere, and patiently wait with expectancy.

Where is the sacrifice? If our place on that altar is empty, then there's no need to expect an answer. The answer only comes to the sacrifice.

God Bless You,
Pastor Duke Downs

Like A Dove

BY PASTOR DAREN DOWNS



Lk. 3:22 *And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.*

Acts 2:2 *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.*

Acts 2:3 *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.*

Acts 2:4 *And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

Rom. 8:28 *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

Rom. 8:29 *For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

The Holy Ghost comes first as the wind and the fire, to burn and purge and blow out all that is not of Christ. The culmination of His work is the dove-like nature of the meek and lowly Christ, the Lamb of God.

THE DOVE UPON CHRIST.

In the verses we have read we contrast the coming of the Holy Spirit upon Christ to the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the gathered disciples in the Upper Room. He came first upon Christ in bodily form as a dove and “abode” upon Him or (remained never to depart). But the disciples received Him as a wind and fire. The fire of Pentecost came to burn and to purge what was not of the character of Christ in them, but there was nothing to burn up in Jesus. There is no question

but that there was a great transcendence in the lives of the disciples after the infilling of the Holy Ghost. They were no longer like they once were and there was a quantum leap toward the nature and character of Christ in their lives. (Yes, there were still things manifested in time, but they were changed men, and the dove had come to settle in their life.)

Peter confronts the same crowd that had crucified his Lord, but not with the sword of metal wielded by fearful and angry hands, but with the sword of the Holy Ghost wielded by the heart of Christ. John, the son of thunder became the apostle of love, and the doubter became the carrier of His Lord’s message – even at the price of his own life. The wind and the fire had made a place for the dove to rest upon Christ within them, to manifest and exemplify all the beauty of Christ: the love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness,

faith, meakness, and temperance; the dove had found His abode in their life.

The fire of the Holy Ghost prepares the way for the dove of the Holy Ghost. Where are you at today? Has the wind blown upon your life? Has the fire yet burned in you? Has the gentle dove found rest upon Christ in your life? These are not just some options that we can pick and choose for our life, they are to be the experience of every Christian marching onward in their journey.

THE DOVE IN THE CLEFT OF THE ROCK.

There is no mistaking on the part of God in choosing the dove as a symbol the Holy Ghost. Song 2:14 “O my dove, that art in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs...”

The dove mentioned here is the rock dove. The rock dove makes its home in the secret places of the stairs of the rocks; and our home is in the Rock Christ Jesus.



(CONTINUED...)

Like A Dove

BY PASTOR DAREN DOWNS



Our life is hid with Christ in God. When Moses wanted to see God, God hid him in the cleft of the rock and put his hand over it and passed by. The pure in heart shall see God, and the purity of heart is found when in Christ, the dove comes to settle in our life. This dove and the rock are inseparable, and the Holy Ghost desires to put all in Jesus Christ – the Rock.

The Holy Spirit descended upon Christ in the form of a dove and He also descends upon us. At first as the cloven tongue of fire and the wind of God to purify, but ultimately making us in nature like the dove. When Noah sent out the dove it first found no rest and returned to him. The next time Noah sent forth the dove it brought back an olive branch – peace – God’s wrath has ended. The third time the dove didn’t return. When our life is sealed by the Holy Spirit Himself, the peace of God comes over us and we cease to live under the wrath of God and come to live in His peace. Christians are to be a people of peace, and if there is no peace in your life you need the fire of the Holy Ghost to come and make way for the dove of the Holy Ghost. The dove finds its rest upon Christ, and as we dwell in Christ Jesus the dove will come to look for rest upon Christ in us.

The dove is “in the secret places of the stairs.” The one hundred twenty made their way up the stairs to the upper room. They were hidden away there from the world, and there the Holy Ghost came upon them. But then, they came forth into the streets of Jerusalem and they went with Christ to the uttermost parts of the earth, but walking in the Holy Spirit all the way. The rock dove likes flying above the flowing water so that if it catches sight of the shadow of a hawk, it can more swiftly avoid its approach.

Our prayers and our countenance should not be manifested through any other place than the cleft of the rock or the Rock that was cleft. In that place we

are secure. In that place alone we find our home. My voice is now to be heard through the cleft of the rock, my countenance is to be seen through the cleft of the rock. This is a real change in my voice (the way in which I speak) and a real change in my countenance (the way in which I look). The Holy Spirit leading us to the cross produces this.

Is your life hid in Christ in God or are you wandering outside of the cleft of the rock? The rock is your protection, it is your home. Are you flying over the flowing waters where you can see the shadow of the evil one?

THE DOVE IS SINGLE-EYED.

The Lord says of His bride, “Thou hast doves’ eyes.” The Dove has one mate – it is single-eyed. The dove is said to commit itself to only one mate for life. When a dove fixes its gaze upon its mate, it is not distracted by any activities around it. Therefore, it is often referred to as being a “love bird.” Our having this “dove’s eye” indicates that we are becoming increasingly aware of the Lord’s person and presence, and that we possess a spiritual awareness that will lift us above the pulls of the earthly. This “single eye” will enable us to become sensitive to the Lord’s presence, and obedient to His desire and purpose. It is said that the dove can live almost anywhere, so long as it has its mate.

If the Spirit of love dwelleth in us then we should reasonably be more and more loving. We say, “I’m not that way!” But the Holy Ghost is, and if He dwells within, His love will burn through and melt your hardness. Wherever He dwells there is to be found a disposition of unselfishness, consideration for others, and loving helpfulness and kindness, and He wants our love in return. When you see these characteristics you can know that the dove’s nest is near.

Isn’t it strange that God should have to plead with us for our love! Strange that

He whom all Heaven adores should have a rival in the hearts of the children whom He has created, and the beings who owe everything they have to His infinite mercy! Strange that so gentle a Friend should have to plead so long and so tenderly for our affections! The Lord’s favor rests upon those who have cultivated a “single eye” toward Him. These can be easily led by Him, for they are close enough to see which way His eye is looking.

Ps. 32:8 “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.”

A horse, on the other hand is distracted by side-vision. Therefore, it must have “blinders” placed beside each eye, and a “bit” set within its mouth. Only then, can it be kept on the path. Therefore, we are admonished:

Ps. 32:9 “Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding; whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.”

Once we have developed this “single eye” toward the Lord, we will no longer respond as a horse or mule – according to our desires. We will have become responsive to Him alone.

Is your eye single? The sure sign of the Holy Spirit’s work in your life and mine is that we are becoming more and more single-eyed and taken up with Christ alone. Are you walking close enough to Him to be led by His eye?

Four times in the Song of Solomon the Lord refers to us in comparison to the dove. The dove’s eyes that stay focused on one thing – Christ Himself. Not distracted by things around them. Not distracted by the peripheral vision, just looking at one thing.

THE EYES OF A DOVE.

Song 1:15 “Behold, thou art fair, my love; behold, thou art fair; thou hast doves’ eyes.”

"*Thou art fair*" twice in the same verse – one speaks of the inward beauty of the believer the second of the outward. The Spirit of God always works on us from the inside to the outside. He makes the heart and nature beautiful and as we progress in Him, that work will have its outward effect, but it begins in the heart. There is nothing that destroys like sin and there is nothing that beautifies like Christ within. "*Thou hast doves' eyes.*" You are not like a hawk that preys on others. The dove does not live by theft. The dove doesn't feed off of dead things.

Rom. 8:13 says, "*For if ye live after the flesh shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*" Those dove eyes are beautiful to Christ. They are not the piercing eye of the eagle, but the pure and chaste eye of the dove, not like the hawk, who, when he soars upwards, still has his eye upon the prey on earth, but a humble modest eye, such eye as discovers a simplicity and godly sincerity and a dove-like innocence, eyes enlightened and guided by the Holy Spirit, that blessed Dove.

The dove is the Jewish symbol of sincerity (without guile; and in the Latin it means clean and pure). Purity is simplicity. The doves' eyes speak of her simplicity within and without. People that speak with simplicity have no guile. The perfection of love is found in its simplicity and uprightness. This is seen in the love between a mother and her child.

The Lord desires us to be led by the Holy Spirit, the Dove of Heaven. Being led is simplicity, trying to find our own way through the maze of this world is complex. Having doves' eyes we see the way in which He leads us. Nothing pleases the Lord as when we follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. We are never more beautiful than when our life is being led by the gentle dove, the Holy Spirit.

Rom. 8:14 "*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*"

Jesus sees in our eyes the eternal Spirit through which He offered His life. Having the eyes of a dove is for the Holy Spirit to be actively seen in us. The problems of today are so complex because people have made a complex mess of their lives. True happiness is not found in all the complex things, but in the simplicity of a child's heart. So many in the troubles of their life think back to their childhood when things were much more simple. And the purity

of our spiritual life is found in the simple obedience and walk in the Spirit.

HARMLESS AS DOVES.

Mat. 10:16 "*Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. - (harmless, guileless, and without falsity) as doves.*" Amp.

The Holy Ghost brings the gentleness of the character of Christ out in our life. There is no place in the realm of the Holy Ghost for the rash, angry, sharp-worded man or women.

A dove is gentle, and is easily startled away. A brother was sharing with me how that he came out of a place recently and saw two of these doves together outside. He said, "I walked gently by, and they just stayed there."

The Holy Ghost will bring gentleness to our walk. When we recognize that in



Christ dwelt the fullness of the godhead bodily, we can then recognize what gentleness there was in the nature of Jesus. So much power, yet so much humility. It is not learning to act gentle and kind, but it is becoming gentle and kind.

For a dove to hover over Jesus meant there was perfect peace, and the words out of Heaven proclaimed, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." The Holy Dove of God will take flight from the chaotic lifestyle.

Is your nature like the dove? Do you gently respond? What do those that live with you see? Or are you living a lifestyle in which the dove can find no rest in your life?

ANOINTED WITH OIL.

The rock dove like many birds has a preen gland which produces oil that they spread through their feathers when preening. Scientists wanted to know the purpose of this preen gland of the dove and removed it. The result was that its plume became rugged and it is believed

to be more susceptible to bacteria and fungus. The oil keeps the feathers from degrading and keeps the dove's plume in beautiful condition. The oil of the Holy Ghost keeps our garments unspotted by the world and in spiritual health.

The scripture speaks of no oil upon the flesh, the oil on the dove is spread upon its covering feathers. So the Holy Spirit gives a purity of heart which gives its own protection, for it is essentially unlike the evil things which grow around it. It may be surrounded on every side with evil, but it is uncontaminated and pure because its very nature is essentially holy and divine.

Like the plumage of the dove, it cannot be soiled, but comes forth from the miry pool unstained and unsullied by the dark waters, because it is protected by the oily covering which sheds off every defilement and makes it proof against the touch of every stain.

The dove is also one of the pure animals that were used for sacrifice; usually by the poor, and the dove will bring purity to your life and mine. No matter how poor we are. He will cover us with the plume of Christ's righteousness and pour oil upon us.

Rev. 19:7 "*Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.*"

WHEN THE DOVE TAKES FLIGHT.

Eph. 4:30 "*And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.*"

Is. 63:10 "*But they rebelled, and vexed {grieved} his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.*"

We don't really read of the anger of the Holy Ghost, but we read of Him being grieved.

How many times in our life we have so grieved His Holy Spirit? Yes, He comes as a wind and a fire, but He desires to settle in our life as the gentle dove.

God Bless You,
Pastor Daren Downs



There are new opportunities opening for us in Egypt. We have made two trips there this year. Earlier this year I went to visit former students of the School of Christ and to minister in some of their churches. It is always a blessing to see the works that the former students are doing.

The pastor's of some of the churches that we visited had sent us students. One church is in the region of El Menia. The church began there about twenty years ago when God called the pastor to do children's ministry. The ministry grew, as did the children and today many of the children have grown up to be pastors and have churches in a different area. We received several students from this church.

The nation of Egypt is eighty percent Islamic; of the twenty percent that go under the title of Christianity, ninety percent are Orthodox (Coptic), only five percent are from Evangelical denominations. The need in Egypt is great, but there is a great hunger there as well. We never cease to have a demand for more schools, and we hear good reports from former students.

One of the former students is now working in church planting in an area of Egypt that has the least amount of

churches. He has greatly matured, and the Lord is using him for His glory. Another student recently answered the call to be a missionary in another Muslim country in the region. As pastor Clendennen always said, "If God is still calling young men and women, that means He is not done with the human race."

This summer I returned to Egypt to hold a conference with cell churches. We gave some lessons from the School of Christ to introduce them to it and also gave several other lessons as well. We believe that this is a new door that will take us further into the Egyptian harvest. Many at the conference were asking, "How can I be a student in the school?"

It was a special trip for me, for it was the first time in sixteen years of missions that my wife and children accompanied me together. My son and daughter quickly made friends with some of the other youth at the conference, and it was an honor to have them with me to see what I do, and why that I travel so much. In ministry, the family as a whole makes the sacrifice together, especially when they are all willing and desirous to fulfill the will of God. I will never forget what my daughter told me a few years ago. She knew that I was getting ready to leave for another trip and came and sat by me. She hugged me and said, "I'm really going to miss you, but Jesus needs you." How that uplifted me to hear that. She expressed in those words how much she loved me, but in the same words her love for Christ.

God is faithful – always faithful. He has been so good to me and to my family. I could never do what I do without all of the people that He has placed in my life and a loving and caring church that has always given, and always prayed, and

would do anything to help my family when I was away. To God be the glory, and may He bless all those that have been a part of this work and ministry.

With love in Christ,
Daren





In the month of May we had an opportunity to visit the North of Iraq. We went there to hold six evenings of meetings at the church of pastor Layth. We held two meetings a night from Wednesday thru Monday. We had about thirty to fifty people that would come. Several pastors and leaders from other churches came as well and some former students of the School of Christ. It was a blessing to see Kurdish pastors come as well. They would sit and weep while I was ministering. I believe that the Lord is going to do great things amongst the Kurdish people. It is very evident that the hand of God is on the Kurdish people in these last days.

Everyone is so hungry that comes. You have people that range from Catholic to Full Gospel that come and the longer you are there the closer to Pentecost you come to. Many people asked for prayer throughout the week, and on Sunday evening many of the people responded and came to the front for prayer.

At the end of the last service night, I prayed for God to bring revival to the Kurds, and for the salvation of the Muslims. A catholic man that had come to several night meetings hollered out, "I hope God answers your prayer!"

We met pastor Layth in 2005. He and a group of Iraqi students came to

the School of Christ in Egypt, and we have continued fellowshiping with some of them.

He was one of the really good students that came to the school in Egypt. He told me on this last trip that the school really changed his life. You can see what the Lord has done in the testimony of Christ that is seen in his church and also in his home.

Pastor Layth was born and raised in Baghdad, but the Lord called him to plant a church in Dohuk, Iraq. Today the church is doing well and is having an impact in the region.

In January 2007 we held the School of Christ in Dohuk. Pastor Layth visited with us in the school and his wife was one of our students.

It was during a prayer meeting in this school in Iraq that God gave me a vision. I seen the valley that we were in. It was in total darkness as the night. But suddenly, a ray of sunlight broke through. It was the first ray of the morning sunrise. That light grew and passed down through the nations to the south. I knew, if this is the first ray of light, then we have but hours to work before the darkness returns.

Church, I believe that there is an opportunity coming ahead. I believe that perhaps this vision will begin with the Kurds. The opportunity will be great, but it will be short, and it will be in the midst of great turmoil. Please pray for us to be ready at all times to move when God says, "GO!"

Iraq is basically split into three regions today. In the North you have Kurdish Sunni Muslims, Chaldean Catholics and Evangelical churches. The Evangelical churches are experiencing great favor in the North.

During my visit we went to see the tomb of the prophet Nahum in Al Qosh. Some dispute that it is not the location of his tomb, but it is inside of the ruins of an ancient synagogue. The only writing inside is Hebrew. Recently rabbis came from Israel to pray there at the tomb and Israel wants to restore this tomb.

This region of Iraq is the location of Nineveh and was part of the Old Assyrian Empire. The Kurds are recognized as the Medes of the Bible. The Medo-Persian Empire which we read about in the time of Esther.

I believe that we will have the opportunity to do much more in Iraq. We thank you for your prayers and support. Please continue to prayer for the church and the pastors in Iraq.

Pastor Daren Downs



ARMENIA

Little did we know the great move of the Holy Ghost in saving, filling and healing last year was only to prepare us for the move of God we would experience in May of this year.

Upon arrival we quickly took care of the needed business (viewing new Bread of Life building, visiting House of Hope, and began the process of getting four vehicles for the Evangelist/Pastors.)



Picture Above: Girl that was healed.

We preached at five churches from Friday night thru Sunday night, almost all services were packed with hungry souls. At brother Artock's church there was a young girl who had an open skin cancer behind her ear on Sunday. Brother Artock received a call from her father that she was healed by God, her skin smooth where the cancer had been. The healing of the girl proceeded our arrival to the twelve villages that week and in the villages alone there were seventy-five saved, forty-three filled with the Holy Ghost and untold healings. There was a man who was healed of scoliosis, and a woman healed of what we believe was frozen shoulder of both arms. She could not lift above her waist, but now she can raise them both straight up above her head and worship the Lord. A Muslim woman was saved and filled with the Holy Ghost.



Picture Above: Muslim woman that was saved.

The report we received from our four Evangelist/Pastors were, "We in sixteen years have never seen a move of God like this."

We also as a group of six visiting ministers, had never witnessed a greater display of God's power. We recently heard from Pastor Robert Turnage (SOC) that the same reports are coming from many other countries around the world. To God Be the Glory.

Humbly submitted
Bill Casey
Revive Us Again
International Ministries



Picture Above: Group photo.

An Update On The Republic Of Georgia

Your giving has met a great need in the Republic of Georgia. Since the beginning of this year we have made known the need for vehicles for pastors in the Republic of Georgia and also in the nation of Armenia.

We have been working with Pastor Shmagi for several years now. He pastors in Gori, but also oversees the church in Khashuri and helps pastor Hvicha in Rustavi. Each place is about an hour or more drive from his home city and church. He has been without transportation for some time and has had to borrow a vehicle when he can't use public transportation. The problem with public transportation is that his ministry would take him into the evening hours when public transportation would cease. He would then have to spend the night wherever he was and go home the next day.

They had been saving money to purchase a new vehicle, but the Lord provided the rest of the funds needed through your giving. He was able to purchase a good conditioned used Honda Odyssey van. This vehicle will serve his family and the church well.



The Spirit Of God Moving In Our Midst

At times it is easy to write of what the Lord is doing in our midst but other times it is hard to put into words what really is happening around us except that the resurrection of our Lord is demonstrated and the only explanation to things is That God is here.

Beloved, wherever the Lord has opened the door to minister, He has anointed the meetings in a mighty and a powerful way. These meetings are very simple with a time of praise and worship, and the Spirit of God shows up to bless His people, to stir them up and to fill them afresh. Most of the time there is no worship band or a choir, just a simple ukulele and a few singing those old Pentecostal songs with a fresh anointing from on high and the place is saturated with the presence of God. We just wait in anticipation of what the Lord is going to do next.

All that I can say is that Jesus Christ is manifesting His Glory in our midst, the churches are strengthened and edified through the preaching of His Word. I just praise God for what He has done and what He is going to do.

With every blessing in Christ,
Pastor Jay Prasad

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What's New?

POSSESSING OUR INHERITANCE SERIES

BY PASTOR DUKE DOWNS

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Every child of God comes to face a Jordan river in their lifetime. It's in that time of adversity and trial that we cross Jordan by blinded faith, or forever retreat to our familiar surroundings. It's God's desire for His children to possess their full spiritual inheritance. These six life changing messages will teach you that it isn't enough just to know about the inheritance, you must step out in faith and possess what God has promised you.

LIKE A DOVE

BY PASTOR DAREN DOWNS

CD-\$4.00, DVD-\$7.00

It's so easy at times to look at others in judgement with preying eyes like the hawk, instead of gentle eyes like a dove. The eyes of a dove means that the Holy Spirit has taken up residence within and is looking through our eyes. This powerful message will challenge you to see others through the eyes of our gentles savior and like a dove, live a life that is single-eyed, until our Lord returns.