

Dearly beloved, greetings in the **PRECIOUS** name of **JESUS** (Phil 2:9; Eph. 1:20-23). **GOD** is still on **HIS** throne. Read Ps. 33; see the nuggets & jewels that will minister to your heart, bringing peace. We have a **GOD** who **LOVES** us with an everlasting LOVE (Jer. 31:3). It is my sincere prayer that you are, as commanded, praying on your whole Armor of **GOD DAILY**, to **STAND** against the wiles of the devil (Eph. 6:10-17). God gave us an Arsenal Prayer of Protection, (see & download at www.melnovak.com), to dress **SPIRITUALLY** for daily battles.

August was a real battle to win souls to **CHRIST** as a little less than 300 came forth. It was the smallest number all year, but **GOD'S WORD** went forth & does NOT return void (Isa. 55:11). It is always the **HOLY SPIRIT** who draws men's hearts to **JESUS** (John 6:44). It is an awesome thing to see **GOD** change hearts. The L.A. Co. Jail services were such a blessing that brought forth gang-bangers, gang members & hardened inmates. The devil assaults the mind, heart & emotions. **GOD** does what **HE** does best in changing men's hearts, (Luke 16:15; I Sam. 16:7) and healing old wounds (Jer. 30:17; Ps. 147:3). There are so many I meet in counseling at prisons & Skid Row that are walking wounded.

The Fred Jordan Mission services at 2:00 P.M. have been packed. These have been the most filled services in 21 years there. The Bible Study before the service with the men in the Spiritual Growth Program has been better than ever. The Union Rescue Mission Services also brought forth scores for prayer, asking me for Bibles & the *Pulling Down Strongholds* book. The home Bible Study has been well received, as **GOD'S** word refreshes us for 2 hours. A pot luck fellowship is enjoyed prior to the study. The prayer time for those who called me & other services went well.

There was an ugly riot at Chino Men's State Prison which caused a lockdown for all other State prisons. I was scheduled for Donovan Penitentiary, a level III maximum security where I've been going for 19 years. The Sergeant at the gate said all yards are locked down, but she let me in to see the Chaplain. "No services," he said. I asked to walk the tiers or go to the 'hole.' Yard 2 & yard 3 said, "NO!" In yard 1, after Chap. Bill Brown, a wonderful Chaplain & Brother in Christ & I prayed, we were able to minister cell to cell. It was a 3½ hour time of ministry. **GOD** gave me favor & the 5 hour 40 minute drive wasn't in vain, **P.T.L.**

The end of the month brought me great pleasure. I visited my brother Robert & his wife Frances for 5 days. I'm so blessed to have him as my brother. We had a wonderful time together. He also took me to see the Detroit Tigers play, & visit relatives, nieces & nephews.

On the plane, I spent time praying & "listening" to **GOD**. Have you ever wondered, "Does **GOD** really desire to speak to me about **HIS** plan for my life?" This is a critical question. The answer defines your understanding of one of the Bibles most important principles. I can assure you that **GOD** wants to speak to **HIS** children today just as **HE** did in Bible times. He loves us as much as **HE** loved the people in the Old & New Testaments. Like Joshua, Moses & Paul, you & I need direction (Ps. 32:8); comfort (II Cor. 1:3); & assurance (Heb. 10:22) from **HIM**.

In our fast-paced society, there are many voices that compete for our attention, that come through other people as well as TV, radio, cell phones & computers. We are surrounded by more talk now than at any other time in history. How can we know that the voice we hear is the **LORD'S**? **GOD** has given us the Bible as a standard upon which we can rely. **HE** always leads us according to **HIS WORD**. **GOD** communicates so that we will know **HIM** & become transformed into the likeness of **HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST**.

The truth is, when we neglect reading & meditating on the Bible & **FAIL** to build its principles into our lives, our spiritual enemy tries to deceive us (I Tim. 4:1, 2). Satanic forces are at work to influence our decisions, adding just enough truth to deception to get us off track. When lambs are born, they do not know the voice of the shepherd, but they quickly learn to recognize & trust it. Once they do, other shepherds can call that lamb but it will respond only to its master's voice, which it knows so well. When **GOD** speaks, it should be natural for a Christian to know their **FATHER'S** voice. "MY sheep hear MY voice, & I know them, & they follow ME." (John 10:27).

The Bible teaches that **GOD** is continually attempting to speak to **HIS** children. Do we listen? To listen to **GOD**, to learn how, is a most valuable principle. Are we too busy doing our own thing? That hinders us when **GOD** desires to teach us a truth. **HE** created us for fellowship, but that is impossible when we're doing all the talking & **NONE** of the listening. As believers, we each have within us the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4), who knows the mind of **GOD** & communicates to our Spirit the truth **GOD** wants us to understand (I Cor. 2:12). Take time today to shut out all the noise, & come before our **FATHER** to ask, "LORD, what are YOU saying to me? Then begin to listen. Our loving heavenly **FATHER** is waiting to talk to us. Make it your goal to listen more closely to **GOD'S** voice.

Until next month may **GOD** richly **BLESS** you & to you who sent love offerings, **I PRAISE HIM** & thank you.

In His Majesty's Service,