

Greetings in the MIGHTY name of our BLESSED LORD JESUS, & greeting you in HIS name is no small thing. HIS name is infinitely above all OTHER NAMES. (Phil. 2:9). Those of us who have HIM in our hearts as LORD & SAVIOR should willingly & enthusiastically profess that JESUS is LORD. (Rev. 19:16). Unsaved rebels who have by CHOICE rejected the provision of HIS GRACE (Eph. 2:8) will be forced to acknowledge HIS LORDSHIP. (Phil 2:10, 11) There is NO bypassing an encounter with CHRIST. Men & women will meet HIM by FAITH (Rom. 10:9,10) as the LAMB OF GOD who takes away the sin of the world, or they will meet our LORD JESUS at the GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT (Rev. 20:11-15) as the LION OF JUDAH who will JUDGE men & women by their works.

July was a truly blessed month of ministry & as always, intense. The battle for souls behind enemy lines continues to increase, but JESUS ALWAYS tips the scales in our favor. There were 22 services this month & well over 350 came to know JESUS CHRIST as LORD & SAVIOR or rededicated their lives to HIM.

On July 4th I went to Donovan Penitentiary, a maximum security level III facility. The first service was great with a nice harvest (Yard 2). As I was walking to yard 3, I was advised by the officer that they just locked the yard down. The devil struck again! I had to wait 4 hours to do the 6:30 service in Yard 1, so I spent the time ministering one on one (Rom. 8:20). The last service was blessed with another nice harvest, but my ride home was brutal. It took 4 hours because of the fireworks traffic. To be honest, I did not praise the LORD anyway, all the way home.

My home Bible Studies that I've had for 24 years have been well attended. For the 1st time, I ministered at the Walter Hoving Women's Recovery Home, a most incredible facility, for Hilda Buck who is a real blessing for the women there. They really embraced my message of forgiveness & GOD'S mercy & grace. The 3 services at the L.A. Mission were all packed & each service had a very large harvest, as did the services at the Union Rescue Mission. The Fred Jordan Mission services always have people hungry for the word. Some come to hear me preach & then leave without eating. This was a month where many men left the Spiritual Growth Program which saddens me. CHOICES !!!

I also ministered a Wednesday & Sunday service at the Long Beach Rescue Mission & it is always well attended with a good solid harvest of souls there. I did a Saturday service for Pastor Bill of the Bread of Life Church on Skid Row. The Lord sure is

using Pastor Bill there. The Chino Womenís Prison & L.A. County Jail services all were true blessings. So many repented & forgave themselves & learned to go the WORD OF GOD & PRAY. I tell them ìGOD will speak to you thru HIS WORD.î

Are you in need of a word from the LORD? Would you like to know GODÍS mind regarding a crucial decision, gain HIS perspective on a problem, or be encouraged by CHRIST to preserve in a stressful situation? Knowing our frailty, sympathetic to our weakness, & more than willing to extend HIS compassion to us, our LOVING & WISE LORD speaks HIS truth to us in our time of need. Can I hear an AMEN on that oneÖ& a PRAISE the LORD.

I am sure the apostle Paul must have experienced great encouragement when the LORD spoke to him at a crucial moment in his life & at a strategic stage of the gospelís proclamation. Paul, having doggedly reached Jerusalem, was in his accustomed position---arrested & imprisoned. Jews from Asia had inflamed the entire city with false accusations. Only a Roman commanders intervention saved Paul from the mobís murderous fury. Following a spirited defense before the throng at the Sanhedrin, Paul heard GOD speak one night in a Roman barracks. Acts 23:11 tells us: ìThe LORD stood at his side & said, Take courage for as you have solemnly witnessed to MY CAUSE at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also.î The LORD knew Paul would need this clear communication from on high to confront tense challenges during the next several years. GOD is willing to speak to you today in your place of testing. (Zac. 13:9; Jer. 17:10; Prov. 17:3). There is no better place to hear the LORDÍS VOICE than through the inspired, full revelation of SCRIPTURE. He may address your concern thru your REGULAR reading of the BIBLE. A verse may jump out at you & apply to your need. By FAITH, stand on it & claim HIS PROMISES (II Cor. 1:20). When HE gives you a promise from HIS WORD, you can endure almost anything. Thatís why itís important to be involved in a church or small group where trusted Christian friends can be used by the LORD. GOD may speak directly to your heart with HIS quiet assurance. The SPIRIT of CHRIST & the peace of GOD bear witness with your spirit that it is GOD, NOT your imagination speaking. GOD NEVER speaks to confuse us (I Cor. 14:33). He speaks to enlighten, encourage, cheer, guide & uplift us. If you are CHRISTÍS disciple, you WILL recognize HIS VOICE (John 10:27).

Until next month, may GOD bless & keep you, & to you who sent a LOVE offering, I PRAISE HIM & THANK YOU. IN HIS MAJESTYÍS SERVICE.

In His Majestyís Service,

Mel Novak