

With great enthusiasm I greet you in the **MIGHTY NAME of JESUS CHRIST**, our blessed **LORD & SAVIOR** who gives us the precious gifts of **PEACE, JOY & HOPE**. During times of trials, tests & afflictions, I pray that **HIS LOVE & GRACE** touches you in a **NEW** way. How great is this? **GOD'S LOVE** is **EVERLASTING** (Jer. 31:3).

May was another blessed & fruitful month of ministry, with a large harvest of souls, over 375 in 19 services. I also spent 6 days in Portland, Oregon with my daughter Lea, son-in-law Doug & my 7 1/2-year old grandson Elijah. It was such a joy. Lea made some great meals & I took them to dinner on Mother's Day & Doug's birthday. Elijah & Doug heard me preach for the first time at the Church of Truth in Vancouver, WA. Of course, Lea had heard me dozens of times. The youth group at this church is so on fire for **JESUS**, praising, worshiping & praying in the Heavenly language. Pastors Slavic & Roman are anointed & doing a great job. Elijah cried when I had to come back home. He is a good athlete & I worked with him — hitting, throwing & changed his stance. I love him dearly & miss him.

I got home on a Monday afternoon & had my home Bible Study that night & 6 services in the next 6 days. The 4 services at the L.A. Co. Jail were especially good, along with hours of counseling. I preached an hour & a half sermon in each service. Scores are having Bible Studies & praying God's Arsenal Prayer there. Chino Women's Prison, as always, had a nice harvest & a packed chapel. There are dozens there who pray for me daily & many have memorized the Arsenal Prayer.

I spent 4 hours at Art Fiero's Loco for Christ "Reach Out in the Summertime Festival" on May 17th. I got to minister to many people. The Fred Jordan Mission Services, (every Tuesday but the first Tuesday) were all well attended with scores of rededications. The men's spiritual growth program Bible Studies have been super. They are hungry & want to be healed & whole. All of the Skid Row services had many who wanted prayer because of adversity & afflictions. This month had an increase of phone calls & e-mails from those desiring prayer, scriptures & direction. **ALL** that called this month, were entrenched in adversity & afflictions.

The **TRUTH** is, all of us face adversity in various forms (Ps. 34:19), but **GOD** calls us to **TRUST HIM** during these difficult times (Ps. 91:2; Nahum 1:7; Ps. 32:10). We **MUST** be able to **TRUST GOD** when adversity & affliction strikes & fills our life with pain. Ps. 50:15 affirms that I'm to "call upon **HIM** in the day of trouble; I will **DELIVER** you & you shall glorify **ME**." When **GOD** says "**I WILL**," that is a covenant promise! (II Cor. 1:20). No one enjoys pain & when it comes, we want it relieved as quickly as possible. However, we cannot put **GOD** in a time box. When an answer to prayer & deliverance are delayed, we are tested (Prov. 17:3; Rev. 2:23; Jer. 17:10). Some tell me it is more difficult

to trust **GOD** than to obey **HIM**. But to me, **TRUST** is the key to **FAITH** (Matt. 9:13).

Many times the circumstances of our lives frequently appear to be dreadful & grim, or perhaps even calamitous & tragic (Ps. 57:1, 2). Multitudes on Skid Row & in prisons are experiencing this because of choices. It comes down to **OBEDIENCE**. Obeying **GOD** is worked out within well-defined boundaries of **GOD'S** revealed will. **TRUSTING GOD** is worked out in an area that has **NO** boundaries, yet it is just as important to **TRUST GOD** as it is to **OBEY HIM**. In order to **TRUST GOD**, we must **ALWAYS** view our affliction & adversity through the eyes of **FAITH**, **NOT** of feelings.

FAITH to **TRUST GOD** in adversity comes through the **WORD OF GOD ALONE**. Through **SCRIPTURE**, we see **GOD'S** relationship & involvement in our painful circumstances. Our precious **HOLY SPIRIT** applies the **WORD** to our hearts so we receive the **GRACE** to **TRUST GOD** in our adversity. **HIS WORD** teaches us that **GOD** is completely **SOVEREIGN**, **INFINITE** in **WISDOM** & is **PERFECT LOVE**. **I BELIEVE THIS!** That's why I can **TRUST HIM** in my affliction & adversity.

Here are **3 TRUTHS** as they relate to us in this way.

1. **GOD**, in **HIS LOVE**, **ALWAYS** wills what is best for us.
2. In **HIS WISDOM**, **HE ALWAYS** knows what is best.
3. In **HIS SOVEREIGNTY**, **HE** has the **POWER** to bring it about.

As you read this, are you hurting & overwhelmed with adversity & afflictions? Are you **TRUSTING HIM** to bring healing, wholeness & deliverance to you? Romans 8:28 says, "**YES**." Trusting **GOD** does **NOT** mean we do not experience pain. It means we believe that **GOD** is at work through the occasion of our pain for our **ULTIMATE GOOD**. **GOD** is absolutely **TRUST-WORTHY**. He may allow us to pass through deep water & the fire, but **HE** will be **WITH** us in these trials (Isa. 43:2). He **NEVER** bails out on us! (Heb. 13:5; Matt. 28:20). What a comfort & encouragement this should be to us! If we are going to **TRUST GOD** in adversity & affliction, we must **BELIEVE** that just as certainly as **GOD** will allow **NOTHING** to subvert **HIS GLORY**. He will allow nothing to spoil the good **HE** is working out in & through us, & for us. Just say, "Father, in **JESUS** name, **I TRUST** you more each day & I thank you & praise you that you are in the midst of this calamity. Continue to pray for the **GRACE** to **TRUST**, no matter what. Don't give up! Keep on praying. (Luke 18:1)

Until next month, may **GOD** abundantly bless you & to you who sent **LOVE** offerings, I thank you & **PRAISE** Him.

In His Majesty's Service,

Scriptures: John 15:7, 9; 1 Peter 1:3-6; 1 John 5:14, 15; Eph. 2:4-7; Romans 8:16-18