

## God Will Help You Do the Impossible!

*The Lord will fight for us!*

(Last Day UB—LIVE)

Fred R. Coulter—April 3, 2021

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to the Last Day of Unleavened Bread, which is also a weekly Sabbath, and that doesn't occur very often.

Here to bring the first message and explain about the offering is Roger Tointon: Offertory:

Greetings to all of you and we are on the last day and we've been going through this now, this will be the seventh day as God commanded, and we will go over a couple of those Scriptures.

As you know and we talked about last week this is a physical type that God had Israel, His physical people that He created go through so that eventually all of mankind would come to understand what God is doing with mankind. That's really what these days picture.

You take each day of God's Holy Days, seven of them—a complete number for God and numbers do mean something to God—and He does a physical type of every spiritual thing in His plan. Why? Because He's dealing with us little 'dumb dumbs' here below. '

He created us imperfect, gave us human nature and the law of sin and death within us, and He approaches everything starting at the elementary level. That's why it's so important to not just say, 'Oh, another Holy Day. Okay, I'll keep the Holy Day.'

That's why God wants us to understand, so He starts with the physical and when we understand the physical then we're ready to go deeper and we can begin to understand the spiritual meaning.

As we go through the seven days that we have gone through, you know there was a first day and now we're on the last, but why seven days? God wants to make sure that we get the message and we remember what He first told us.

What did God first tell us when He called us and opened our mind? *Hey you, I'm talking to you!* And He showed us things in the Word of Life. We began to see and understand, and then committed ourselves to Him. Then we really began to learn more, and that's the way God wants it. You start small, why do you go to kindergarten or first grade *first*, then later graduate from grade school, high school and nowadays most people in college of some type? *Because we are to progress*, and that's why we have gone through seven days; I mean in type.

The same thing then spiritually why we are progressing on the highway to the Kingdom of God! Now I want to introduce a couple of things:

Leviticus 23:6: "And on the fifteenth day of the same month *is* the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD. You must eat unleavened bread seven days. On the first day you shall have a Holy convocation. You shall not *do any servile work therein*, but you shall offer a fire offering to the LORD seven days" (vs 6-7). *That's what they had to do each of those days!*

Verse 8: "In the seventh day *is* a Holy convocation...." *We have arrived at that now!* We are on the seventh, and it is a Holy Day to God.

"...**You shall do no servile work therein.**'....And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, "When you have come into the land, which I give to you, and shall reap the harvest of it..."' (vs 8-10)—*meaning the land when they in!*

Now, here is another thing important to understand, and why we do that each year on this day.

1-Corinthians 9:6: "Or I only and Barnabas, do we not have a right to refrain from working?"

Paul was trying to teach them something, but he wanted them to be aware, because there was a lot of misunderstanding then, and there still is now in the end-time Church of God. Paul is making this point:

Verse 7: "Does anyone at any time serve as a soldier at his own expense?..."

They understood that then, they were always at war of one kind or another. War was very individual standing on the line and slugging it out face-to-face. They knew the principle that Paul is talking about.

"...Does anyone plant a vineyard and not eat the fruit of it? Or does anyone shepherd a flock and not eat *the meat* and milk from the flock? Am I saying these things *merely* from a human point of view?..." (vs 7-8).

*No, indeed, he was not—physical and spiritual!*

"...Or does not the law say the same things? (v 8).

God's Law covers it all. It's the foundation and covers so many things. Christ came here below, not only to be the Sacrifice, but to open up the spiritual; part of the Law so that God could then begin to have firstfruits that were accounted worthy in their lifetime in this age. That's where it leads to.

Verse 9: "For it is written in the Law of Moses, 'You shall not muzzle the ox that is treading out corn.' Is it because God is concerned for oxen?"  
*No, not really; He has greater things in mind!*

Numbers 33:1: "These *are* the journeys of the children of Israel, who went forth out of the land of Egypt with their armies under the hand of Moses and Aaron. And Moses wrote their goings out according to their journeys by the command of the LORD. And these *are* their journeys according to their starting places. And they set out from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month. On the *next* day after the Passover *Day*, the children of Israel went out with a high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians" (vs 1-3).

This was after the Passover, the next day and it was the first day, and we re now on the last.

Verse 4: "While the Egyptians were still burying all *their* firstborn..."—*when they went out!* This was the next day, and it's an important thing to remember so that we keep it at the right time. God does expect us to take up an offering.

- What is the offering?
- Does God need the offering?

We all know that He doesn't, but again, He has set things up for us to do so that we will look to Him all our spiritual life after He has called us, and do what He says because we fear Him, and we want to become His sons/daughters to fulfill His plan in the Kingdom.

(pause for offering)

Fred Coulter:

Thank you, Roger, appreciate it very much. We'll use whatever God sends to do what God wants.

***God will help you do the impossible!*** But we need His help! That's what most people don't realize that they need.

The children of Israel left on the 15<sup>th</sup> day and then traveled, and finally on the last day they came to the Red Sea. God did something that's very important. He didn't take them the way that they expected.

- Isn't that realistic with everything that God does?

- Does God do it the way that we think He should do it?

*No! He does it the way that He wants us to do it! And for a great purpose. Sometimes, since that purpose isn't known right away, it looks like a mistake.*

So, God brought them into a place that was almost unthinkable to come! The Red Sea runs with high mountains coming up behind them. When they came, they arrived in their marching column and that's how they had to camp. They couldn't setup and have the camps laid out the way that God later instructed them.

What happened was this—and God knew that it would happen—***you can never be sure of your enemy!*** If He does something one time, that doesn't mean He won't do it another time. So, Pharaoh and all the people said, 'What have we done? We let the children of Israel go!' They had slaves do everything that we have slaves that do things for us. What do I mean? Our slaves are machinery, electricity, running water. They had to have slaves do all of those things. How would you feel if:

- the electricity went off?
- the water went off?
- the food was rotten and destroyed?
- you could still smell all of the rotting bodies of those you were not able to bury right away?

*You say to yourself that it was 'stupid to let the slaves go!'*

So, they said, 'Hey, they're stuck down by the Red Sea, let's go get them! Here's what Pharaoh said:

Exodus 14:3: "For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They *are* trapped in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.'...."

This is something that we can't do, but God can do! He hardened the heart of Pharaoh. When God says that He's going to fight your battles for you, what's one of the things that He always does? ***Confuses the enemy! Entraps them and let's them think that they're going to win!*** But they're going to lose!

I like the one where God had something special for an invading army, swarms of hornets! The armies turned around and ran away! Didn't have to throw a spear or shoot an arrow. This is what God is doing here:

Verse 4: "**...And I will be glorified through Pharaoh and all his army, so that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD.**'...."

Through His power He wants to convince them that **He is God**, which He will do.

- v 5—Pharaoh got everything together
- v 6—“...made his chariot ready...”

Verse 7: “And he took the 600 chosen chariots and captains over every one of them. And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And he pursued the children of Israel, and the children of Israel went out with a high hand” (vs 7-8).

You would think—stop and think about this—that the Egyptians would have remembered all the plagues that came upon them; they were terrible. But they didn’t! So, here they come:

Verse 9: “So, the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army. And they overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon. And when Pharaoh drew near, **the children of Israel lifted up their eyes. And behold, the Egyptians marched after them.** And they were very afraid. And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD” (vs 9-10).

Again, just like the Egyptians didn’t remember all the plagues that came upon them, the children of Israel didn’t remember all the plagues that God brought upon the Egyptians ***and the miraculous thing that He did to get them out of Egypt!***

So, they all left Rameses, and here they are by the Red Sea. “**And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD.**” Moses knew that God would do something, but he didn’t know what. We will see that God had to talk to him.

Like with us, we’re all going to face difficult times down through our Christian walk. It’s going to be difficult, indeed! There are going to be times that we will be in circumstances that we don’t know why we’re in them, and we don’t know how we’re going to be delivered out of them. Why does God do this? ***Because He wants to know if you’re going to trust Him!***

The first thing that they do is the same thing that Adam and Eve did. Remember what happened when God asked Eve, ‘Why did you eat it?’ *The serpent made me do it!* So, God asked Adam, ‘Why did you do it?’ *Lord, it was this woman You gave me, she made me do it!*

Same thing here, instead of coming to Moses and saying, ‘Moses, we know all that prayers that you did when the plagues were coming down, how about praying for us, because Pharaoh is

coming.’ Here’s what they said; they accused Moses:

Verse 11: “And they said to Moses, ‘Have you taken us away to die in the wilderness because *there were no graves in Egypt?*’”

Plenty of room to be buried in Egypt, but not out here.

“...Why have you dealt this way with us to carry us forth out of Egypt?” (v 11).

They were in Egypt complaining to God; ‘Oh this slavery is terrible, O God, where are You?’ They forgot all about it!

Verse 12: “Did we not tell you this word in Egypt, saying, ‘Let us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians?’ for it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness.”

Pretty tough choices to make! Here you are out in the wilderness.

- How are you going to get around this?
- What did Moses say?

This is what we need to do when we come to circumstances like this; we need to:

- stop
- think
- pray
- look to God
- ask for His help

*And He will show us the Way!*

Verse 13: “And Moses said to the people, **‘Fear not!...’**—*don’t be afraid!*

We’re going to have a lot of things come upon us in the future, and I want you to know that ***this ‘cancel culture’ is to destroy every vestige of Christianity! Eventually they’re going to get to us! That will be our Red Sea!***

“...**Stand still**... [don’t get in a panic and run off and be stupid] ...**and see the salvation of the LORD**...” (v 13). *That’s what we’re to ask God for:*

- to save us
- to help us
- to rescue us

“...which He will work for you today, for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, **you shall never see them again!**” (v 13).

I imagine that there were some people out there saying, ‘Yeah, how is that going to work?’

Verse 14: “**The LORD shall fight for you, and you shall be still.**... [in other words, shut your mouth and quite complaining] ...And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Why do you cry to Me? Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward’” (vs 14-15).

How are they going to go forward when they’re stuck with Egyptians on one side of them and the Red Sea on the other side of them? **Impossible!**

Notice the weapon that he uses; think about all the sophisticated technology that we have today. I was watching a program on the modern technology for the latest fighter plane—F35, I think—they can do so many things, it’s incredible.

- think of all the technology
- think of all the work
- think of all the money
- think about how it was put together

*And you have to train the pilot to do certain things!*

*So, look at this weapon;* Verse 16: “And you lift up your rod... [a piece of wood] ...and stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.” **Lord, that’s impossible!**

Verse 17: “And behold, I *am* about to harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. And I will get honor for Myself upon Pharaoh, and over all his army, over his chariots and over his horsemen. And **the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD.**... [God even wants carnal people to know that He is the Lord] ...when I will be glorified through Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen” (vs 17-18).

God has a lot of helpers and warriors on His side, they’re called *angels!* Here’s the leading angel who came and took the cloud that was over the children of Israel and moved it over toward where the Egyptians were, and made a wall out of that cloud between the Egyptians and the children of Israel.

On this side with the children of Israel there was light, but with the Egyptians it was dark. They couldn’t see anything; they didn’t know what was going on. The children of Israel were there and all of a sudden a big blasting wind comes.

Verse 21: “And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. And the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.”

You need to understand that the children of Israel were camped along the seashore in their marching column. So, this must have been two or three miles long. So, when God split the Red Sea

open, it was a big wide thing so they could all just walk across, because they had to get across there quickly.

If they went single file, like you see in the movies, it would have taken over a day for them to get through there when you consider a million or more people.

This was a big deal and this tells you why Pharaoh and the Egyptians thought they could get in there and go after the children of Israel, because it was so wide.

Verse 22: “And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground. And the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. And the Egyptians pursued and went in after them to the middle of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And in the morning watch... [so it blew all night and just before sunrise the children of Israel got across] ...it came to pass that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and the army of the Egyptians was thrown into confusion” (vs 22-24).

Think about that! That’s how God deals with them. Can you think of another time that was very important that God caused a lot of confusion? *The Tower of Babel!* How did He do that? *Changed all the languages!*

You go to your neighbor and he can’t understand, even talking to him just the day before. So, they couldn’t build the Tower of Babel. **God has many tools that He can use!**

Verse 25: “And He loosened their chariot wheels...”

If you loosen them, what happens to them? *They come off!* That’s a slick little trick! That would be like you’re being in a big tank and going along, and you stop and all of a sudden you start taking off and all of a sudden the tracks that run the tank fall off. *Nothing you can do!*

“...and made them go heavily...” (v 25).

- Why? *Because now with the wheels loosened and coming off they were dragging!*
- What did that do? *That slowed the Egyptians down a until they were in the middle of where the Red Sea would come!*

“...so that the Egyptians said, ‘Let us flee from the face of Israel, **for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.**’ And the LORD said to Moses...” (vs 25-26).

‘Okay, now is the time, Moses, we’ve got them

right there in the middle of the sea. So, stretch out your rod and I'm going to bring the waters back.

"...‘Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.’ And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea. And the sea returned to its strength when the morning appeared...." (vs 26-27).

Here it comes! Can you imagine the roar of the water rushing, and right where the Egyptians were? *It took care of them all!*

"...And the Egyptians tried to flee from it. And the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of the sea. And the waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen, all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. **There did not remain so much as one of them....** [took care of them all] ...But the children of Israel walked upon dry land through the middle of the sea. And the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. So, **the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians....**" (vs 27-30).

Then they had a great celebration! There were dancing, singing and praising God. The day before they were complaining, whining, moaning and groaning. Now here they were really happy.

Think about this great miracle, because of what happens next. It shows you how unstable and fickle the carnal mind is, even though there were miracles done.

- Can you think of what happened during the days of Jesus, that the people didn't remember?
- What was it that Jesus did?
- How many did He heal?
- How many demons did He cast out?
- How many were made well?
- How many went home who were blind?
- How many who were deaf could now hear?
- Where were they on the Day of Pentecost when God sent the Holy Spirit?
- Did they remember God?
- Did they know what God was doing?

*I've pondered that question a lot of times!* Jesus had gone everywhere!

- What about the 5,000 and the 4,000 that He fed?
- Where were they?

It's the same way, sometimes, with people in the Church. They come into the Church, are baptized, have their sins forgiven and they're

learning all these new things that they never knew. Everything is fine and wonderful, and then they find out that there are Holy Days to keep. Whoa! Tithes and offerings to give. Whoa! Then they find out that maybe being a Christian will cost them their job! Or their marriage! Or whatever, because they didn't count the cost.

Stop and think about it! Remember when the Church had 120,000 attending the Feast of Tabernacles. That's a lot, a lot of people. Their income was \$200-million for that year. Where did the money go? ***They forgot all these lessons!*** That's what Paul wants us to learn, which we will see in just a minute. How quickly did they forget.

Exodus 15:22: "And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah because it *was* bitter.... [God knew they were bitter] ...Therefore, the name of it was called Marah. **And the people murmured against Moses, saying, 'What shall we drink?'**" (vs 22-24) *Three days!* How is that for a short memory?

Verse 25: "And he [Moses] cried to the LORD. And the LORD showed him a tree. And when he had cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet...."

This also tells us that sometimes there are things that God will do for us, but we have something to do, as well. God didn't just make the waters sweet by command. He wanted them to do a little work and see that He would provide. So, He did, and the waters were made sweet.

*Now God begins to tell them why;* v 26: "And He said, 'If you will **diligently...**'" *That might be a good study,* look up how many times *diligent* and *diligently* is in the Bible!

"...**hearken to the voice...** [remember the three words: *obey My voice*, that's all the way through the Bible] ...**of the LORD your God, and will do that which is right in His sight...**" (v 26).

This tells us that God knows what we are doing. Those of us who have the Holy Spirit of God in us, you're going to see for the April letter, how much the Spirit of God is there with us and what we need to do.

"...**and will give ear to His commandments,** and keep **all** His laws, I will put none of these diseases upon you, which I have brought upon the Egyptians; for I *am* the LORD Who heals you.' And they came to Elim, where *there were* twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees. And they camped there by the waters" (vs 26-27).

They probably stayed there for quite a little while. That's quite a thing!

Let's see how God will help us. Remember that we're talking about impossible things. To become a spirit being, only God can make that happen; for us that's an impossible thing. We need to look to God for everything that we do. That's why we:

- study
- pray
- draw close to God
- yield to Him in everything

***We ask God to fight our battles for us!***

It's good that we remember what God did for the children of Israel. It's good that we remember did to call us and open the door so we can begin to understand about His Truth and lead us to be baptized and so forth.

But then we have spirit battles to fight. And there are going to be a lot of them coming!

Psalm 35:1: "Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me."

I remember one experience. There was a man who was disfellowshipped in the Church, which was in Phoenix, Arizona. I found that he did not sin, because I was told to investigate, because those at headquarters didn't want to do it.

Jon Hill sent it out to me and said, 'Solve this.' Rod Meredith and Al Caruso—the 'henchmen' there—didn't want to handle it. Once he was disfellowshipped, he was disfellowshipped permanently.

I got this stack of stuff and I was trying to find out whether he had sinned, and what his sin was. I didn't look at it for a while, but I made arrangements, because he was up in Boise at the time, and I would fly every Sabbath from Salt Lake to Boise to preach. Anyway, after services the Sabbath before Atonement, we got together at the local elder's house in Boise.

We were talking and his name is Brent Nolan. His wife was there and he was very calm and nice, and everything was going fine. I thought to myself: How am I going to know if this guy really did whatever he did to deserve being disfellowshipped?

I looked him right in the eye and said, 'Today is the Day of Atonement, are you fasting?' *He said, 'Yes, of course!'* So, I said that I would promise to look into it. After I got back from Boise, the next day I started. They had a big dossier!

We will continue the rest of the story after the break. You will be surprised how God took care of this when it looked like everything was lost.

(break)

I got back to Salt Lake City where we lived and went up to my office and got out the file. It was a nice thick dossier.

Sidebar: Rod Meredith had everything on every member in every church in his file. All of the ministers had to go out and visit and have at least 15-20 visits a week. They had to write up a card and send it in: what was talked about and what were the problems. He had it on every minister; he was the Gestapo!

Back to this and you'll understand why. I looked at the stack and said that I would do it this way: I'm going to read what is here and will have two piles:

1. if it's a sin against God
2. if there's no sin

Different ones wrote things and some of the sycophant deacons wrote and 'while Brent was over at our place, but he was a little bit cool and it was hard to get along with him.'

He knew what was going on. So, I went through the whole stack and there was nothing that was sin. When I saw Brent Nolan I asked him what was it that happened? The thing was that he defrauded a widow. But I couldn't find anything where he defrauded a widow.

I asked him what it was. He said that down in Arizona they build houses with adobe bricks and she wanted an addition put on her house. He said:

I drew up the plans and she approved them, so I was building them. I laid the adobe bricks out and I doing it for \$5 a sq.ft.; just a little over my cost. I got the walls up and the windows were ready to go in and she came and said she want a 'this window moved over there.' He said he couldn't do it; there's no way I can do it because I would have to tear down the whole wall and another wall and rebuild them to meet the requirement and he couldn't do it.

So, he had to abandon the job; she didn't want him working. He was disfellowshipped for that!

Whoa! It wasn't his fault at all. A year later I was 'invited' to move down to Pasadena. They were really mad that I reinstated Brent Nolan as a deacon, had him continue with the duties in the Church up in Boise, ***because I went against the hierarchy!***

I got down there and pretty soon that in the churches I was pastoring—Torrance and Santa Monica—instead of preaching every week it became every other week, then once a month. They were working me down to soften me up for the blow!

Then they were going to have a special meeting. Dolores and I were fasting and praying about it. It was a terrible meeting; it was a setup! All the sycophant ministers—Al Caruso was the District Director—were all fawning and all this sort of thing; just sickening!

They did all they could to get me mad so they could fire me. I didn't! I went home and Dolores and I were fasting. I was praying about in the little office I had: God, what's going on? How come this is happening? What is it that is going on?

There's was like a voice that came out of my head that said, 'Brent Nolan! The fellow they disfellowshipped.' I said, 'That's it!' So, on a Wednesday Al Caruso said, 'I want to take you and Dolores to dinner at the steak house.'

We get there and the first thing he said was, 'Fred, I'm going to tell you what Dr. Zimmerman told one time. What I'm going to say to you he said to me: *I don't want you to interrupt anything of what I'm going to bring out, even if it's not true, you're not to say a word!*

I sat there and thought, well, that's justice! What happen was that he did that and it was a rant and rave about Brent Nolan. This was on a Wednesday.

Psalm 35:1: "Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help. Also draw out the spear and the lance against those who pursue me; say to my soul, 'I am your salvation.' Let them **be ashamed and brought to confusion** those who seek after my soul; let them be turned back and humiliated, those who devise evil against me" (vs 1-4).

That's exactly what happened! Remember, we had the dinner on Wednesday. Thursday Al Caruso left and went with Dr. Ernest Martin. Friday Rod Meredith was fired and sent to Hawaii!

I bring that out because you may have to go through some things that are very unjust, which are not very good. ***But trust in God, He will work it out! He won't forget you!***

Psalm 34:1: "I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall always be in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; the humble shall hear and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together. **I sought the**

**LORD, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears**" (vs 1-4).

That exposed to me, at that time, ***the terrible setup of a hierarchy!*** That doesn't work! Sometimes you have to look to God and you:

- don't know what to do
- don't know how to do it
- don't know why all this is coming upon you

***But it taught me a good lesson!***

Sidebar: David Antion was put in charge of the ministry and guess what he did with all the dossiers on all the members and ministers? *He burned them!*

***You don't run the Church of God like a Gestapo!***

Psalm 16:1: "Preserve me, O God, for in You do I take refuge.... [all the time God is there] ...I have said to the LORD, **'You are my LORD; I have no goodness apart from You'**" (vs 1-2).

Think about that! That's why we have the book: *From a Speck of Dust to a Son of God: Why Were You Born?* All of us were less than a speck of dust at one time. Everything that we have comes from God. whatever goodness we have comes from God.

But we don't have goodness within us. What do we have within us that is contrary"

- the carnal mind
- deceit
- hatred
- all the fruits of the flesh

***But God is working with us and on us to overcome and change that!***

Verse 3: "As for the saints in the earth, they are the excellent ones in whom is all My delight." *That's a prophecy of Christ!*

***So, in spite of all of what we may go through, we are the delight of God!***

Verse 4: "Their sorrows shall be multiplied who run after another god. I will not pour out their drink offerings of blood; and I will not take their names upon my lips. The LORD is the portion of my inheritance and of my cup; You shall uphold my lot. The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; yea, I have a beautiful inheritance" (vs 4-6).

You've been called to an inheritance that is going to be so fantastic, so absolutely wonderful, so absolutely marvelous. Read Rev. 21 & 22 about New Jerusalem. Then read about how Christ looks in His glorified form and read what Jesus said about all of those who will be in the Kingdom of God, that

their faces shall shine like the sun.

That's what God is doing. That's going to be an amazing thing when we come to Pentecost and all that takes place on that day.

Psalm 17:13: "Arise, O LORD, confront him, bring him down; deliver my soul from the wicked **by Your sword**, from men by Your hand, O LORD, from men of the world whose portion is in this life, and whose belly You fill with Your treasure. They are full of children, and will leave their riches to their babes. **As for me...**" (vs 13-15).

It doesn't matter about people you know in the world as to how much they have, how strong and powerful they are, how influential they are; here's the goal right here: Nothing that they have can compare to what God is going to give us.

Verse 15: "As for me I will behold Your face in righteousness; **I shall be satisfied, when I awake...** [at the resurrection] **...with Your likeness.**"

Remember Gen. 1, ***we're made in the likeness and image of God!*** But we do not have His exact likeness spiritually, *but at the resurrection we will!* That's quite a thing when you really understand that.

Now what we're going to read is a combination of New Testament doctrine and the Psalms right here in Isa. 41. Always remember that when the apostles started preaching, there was no New Testament, only the Old Testament. But everything that is there in the O.T. scattered here and there—precept upon precept and line upon line, and so forth—are the things that are brought out in the New Testament clearly for us to understand.

Isaiah 41:8: "But you, Israel... [just put your name there] *...are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen... [What are we? The called, the chosen, the faithful!]* ...the seed of Abraham, My friend."

If you're Christ's, you're Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise (Gal. 3).

Verse 9: "Whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called you from its uttermost parts. And I said to you, 'You are My servant...'" *This applies to Christ!*

It also was applied to Cyrus at the time, because Cyrus gave the edict for the Jews to leave Babylon to go back to Jerusalem. We, all of us, are servants of God one way or another.

"...I have chosen you, and have not cast you away. **Do not fear...** [regardless of what happens] **...for I am with you...** [if you have God's Spirit He is with you] **...be not dismayed; for I am your**

**God. I will strengthen you...**" (vs 9-10).

When you get down to it, as human beings we're all really weak! Just one breath away and it's over. That's just a fact.

"...yea, **I will help you...** [in many different ways] **...yea, I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness**" (v 10).

That's why we have to have the righteousness that comes from God through His Spirit, through His Word.

Verse 11: "Behold, all those who were angered against you shall be ashamed and confounded...[confused] ...they shall be as nothing...."

In the book of Revelation chapter 11 we have about the two witnesses. To show His strength and power, God has two men. Not a big army, *two men!* The true Christians are being chased and cut down. But He has two men in Jerusalem:

1. the high priest out of the coming temple
2. the governor of Judea

Anyone who says that they know the two witnesses...

I got a phone call from one man who says that he talked to the two witnesses. I said, 'You haven't talked to the two witnesses; they're not even here; good-bye!'

Think of it! *Two men confound the whole world!* They have the power for calling down every plague, every drought, every flood, every hurricane. ***Two men!*** The world plots to get them and they come after them. What happens when they come to get them? *Fire comes out their mouth and burns down the ones coming to get them!* How is that for a weapon?

Finally, after 1,260 days, God says that's enough, and He lets *the beast* kill them. The world rejoices; they send presents to each other! They are so happy. But after three and a half days the world is completely ashamed. Why? *Because the ones they didn't put in the grave stand up and say, 'Here I am.'*

Think about all the effort that was put out to kill them. Because they were the last two martyrs, they will be the first two resurrected. A voice comes out of heaven, 'Come up here!' **How is that for a victory?** As they're coming up, there's a great earthquake and 7,000 men are killed. **How is that for revenge?**

The next thing that is going to happen—and we'll save this for Pentecost—the seventh trump blows and the resurrection of all the saints down



through time from around the world occurs. I think that the world is going to see that! **How is that for help!**

Isaiah 44:6: “Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and His Redeemer *even* the LORD of hosts, ‘I AM THE FIRST, AND I AM THE LAST...’” *Isn’t that what Jesus said that He was?*

- the First and the Last
- the Beginning and the Ending
- the Alpha and Omega

“...**and besides Me there is no god**’—*on the earth there was other god.*

Verse 7: “And who, as I, shall call and shall declare it and set it in order for Me, since I appointed the ancient people? And the things that are coming, and shall come, let them declare it to us. **Fear not, nor be afraid**... [Sound like standing at the Red Sea? *Yes!*] ...have I not told you from that time; and have declared *it*? So, you *are* My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Yea, *there is* no other Rock; I know not *one*” (vs 7-8). *That’s the strength and help that we have there!*

Isaiah 12:1: “And in that day you shall say, ‘I will give thanks to You O LORD; though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You do comfort me.... [which God will do for Israel when He’s ready] ...Behold, God *is* my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid; for the LORD God is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.’ And with joy you shall draw water out of **the wells of salvation**” (vs 1-3).

Think of that; that’s the Holy Spirit of God! “...**the wells of salvation**”; that’s an amazing thing!

Verse 4: “And in that day you shall say, ‘Praise the LORD! Call upon His name; declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name is exalted. Sing *to* the LORD; for He has done gloriously; this *is* known in all the earth.... [that will be coming] ...Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion; for great *is* the Holy One of Israel in your midst” (vs 4-6).

This is a good example of why we need to study and pray every day. It’s a constant from God to us and us to God. God speaks to us through His Word; that’s why we have it.

{Psa. 35 was already covered and Fred goes forward after discovery}

Let’s see that being a Christian and having the Spirit of God, we do have a constant battle going on.

- 1) the forces in the world
- 2) those who come against us

3) our own carnal mind

*But we need to understand that in this warfare that we need to do it God’s way!* Look at the world:

- How many self-help programs are there for people to become better? *There are a lot of them!*
- Are they successful to a certain degree?

Unfortunately, modern Christianity in the world is psychology with the name of Jesus attached to it 80% of the time. There’s very little of the Bible.

2-Cor. 10 shows that we have this battle going on, and the battle going on is that we always need to stay close to God.

2-Corinthians 10:3: “For although we walk in *the* flesh... [that’s true] ...**we do not war according to the flesh.**”

How do we war? *With the Word of God!* What we went through {referring to the episode with Brent Nolan and the church hierarchy}:

- Was there anything I could have done to stop it myself? *No!*
- Did God do it? *Yes!*
- Did we learn lessons from it? *Yes!*

Verse 4: “For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, **but mighty through God to the overthrowing of strongholds**” (vs 3-4).

Where are those strongholds? *In the mind!* Here’s the battle, and this is what we go through using the Spirit of God.

Verse 5: “Casting down *vain* imaginations...”

Here are our weapons, the fruits of the Spirit:

Galatians 5:22: “But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**...” *The greatest weapon you have is loving God and God loving you!*

“...**joy**...” *There’s nothing that can take away what God has given you!*

“...peace, longsuffering... [whatever the trial is] ...kindness, goodness, faith, meekness, **self-control**...” (vs 22-23)—*that’s a key one!*

**Self-control is the proper use of free choice!** You control what’s in your mind. How do you do it?

2-Corinthians 10:5: “**Casting down vain imaginations**... [we get those] ...**and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God**...”

In the world there are so many people who have things against the knowledge of God, *and they 'religiousize' them!* Look at all the rituals. The Catholic Church, pagan churches, Judaism...

I saw Jonathan Kahn all dressed up in his regalia doing the Passover *a week late!* He had this ritual and explained this, that and the other.

We come to God at Passover and say, 'O God, only You can help me overcome! Only with Your Spirit and with Your Word is it going to be done!'

You can do all kinds of silly rituals and name them, memorize them, go through them, wear a bonnet over your head and a blanket over your shoulders and be known as a 'great Jewish guru.'

***But here's where the battle is;*** v 5: "Casting down *vain* imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God..."

- What's the first one that comes along? *God didn't mean that!*
- If He didn't mean why did He say it and have it written down?

**"...and bringing into captivity...** [grabbing hold of those vain imaginations and those thoughts] **...every thought into the obedience of Christ"** (v 5).

That's where it comes from! This is the Christian battle to overcome sin within. {note our Transcript Book with CD: *Overcoming the Sin Within*}

Even the worst criminal can put on a facade that's really nice, that's really loving. I saw this on *I Almost Got Away with It*:

Here is this man who was involved in a murder. He escaped, caught and put back in prison, and he escaped again and got away and got down to Mexico. He was a very nice man, got married and the people of the town looked upon him as someone who was really smart, which he was.

They began to come to him to teach the children English, and school, because they didn't have a good school. So, he was making a good amount of money, well known and well thought of. He was nice, kind and teaching the kids English and all of that.

But he was murderer! *They didn't know it!* Finally, they got him, and everyone was shocked. 'Oh, he was such a nice man.'

It's not what we put out here; ***it's what's going on up here in the mind*** that God is looking at.

Verse 6: "And having a readiness to avenge... [fight against] ...all disobedience,

whenever your obedience has been fulfilled."

Heb. 12 also shows us another aspect of that battle and that Christ is always there to help us.

Hebrews 12:1: "Therefore, *since* we are surrounded by such a great throng of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight... [everything that's against us] ...and the sin that so easily entraps *us*... [it does] ...*and* let us run the race set before us with endurance, **having our minds fixed on Jesus**, the Beginner and Finisher of *our* faith; Who for the joy that lay ahead of Him endured *the* cross, *although* He despised *the* shame, and has sat down at *the* right hand of the Throne of God. Now **meditate deeply on Him Who endured such great hostility of sinners against Himself so that you do not become weary and faint in your minds**. You have not yet resisted to the point of *losing* blood in your struggle against sin" (vs 1-4).

Let's see how we can face everything that comes along. It doesn't matter what it is. We're going to face different problems than they faced back then when the Church was starting. We're facing different problems than they faced during the Middle Ages.

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

Doesn't say we will be; we are, but will be changed at the resurrection.

Verse 15: "Now, you have not received a spirit of bondage again unto fear, but you have received *the* Spirit of sonship, whereby we call out, 'Abba, Father.'.... [that closeness to God] ...The Spirit itself bears witness conjointly with our own spirit, *testifying* that we are *the* children of God" (vs 15-16).

Notice what God is holding out for us. Think about that in relationship to everything that's in the world.

Verse 17: "Now, **if** *we are* children, *we are* also heirs—truly, **heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if** indeed we suffer together with Him, so that we may also be glorified together with Him."

That's whole other ballgame, isn't it? *Yes, indeed!* Notice what Paul says concerning the things that are taking place:

Verse 18: "For I reckon that the sufferings of the present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory that shall be revealed in us."

What is that going to be like, having a face that shines like the sun?

Verse 19: "For the earnest expectation of the creation... [the whole purpose of God's creation]

...itself is awaiting the manifestation of the sons of God.”

The sons of God are all of those who will be raised in the resurrection when Christ returns. That’s all of us! All who have come before us!

Verse 20: “Because the creation was subjected to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who subjected *it* in hope.”

***We are the hope***, because we are going to be under Christ to rule and reign on the earth and to help bring salvation to the whole world! Do you understand that? It is so vast, so great! That’s why we have these Holy Days, so that we understand what God is doing, and that we are part of it.

Verse 22: “For **we know that all the creation is groaning together and travailing together until now.**”

Remember this verse and bring it out when you watch the news. Is that happening? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 23: “And not only *that*, but even we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, also groan within ourselves, awaiting the sonship—the redemption of our bodies.”

That’s what we’re looking to; this is a magnificent thing. You won’t hear this preached on TBN or Daystar.

Verse 24: “For by hope we were saved; but hope that is seen is not hope; for why would anyone still be hoping for what he sees?”

Verse 26: “Now, in the same way also, **the Spirit is conjointly helping our weaknesses**... [God’s Spirit is there to help us all the time] ...because we do not fully understand what we should pray for, according as it is necessary, but the Spirit itself makes intercession for us with groaning that cannot be expressed *by us*.”

In other words, the Spirit when we’re praying, brings back to God the deep meaning of our heart, even though what we are saying is not expressed truly in the way that we would like.

Verse 28: “And we know that **all things**... [there is nothing excluded] ...work together for good to those who love God...”

That’s what it gets down to. What is the first commandment? *Love God with all your heart, mind, soul and being!*

“...to those who are called according to *His* purpose... [we’re part of the purpose and plan of God] ...because those whom He did foreknow He also predestinated *to be* conformed to the image of His own Son, that He might be *the* Firstborn among

many brethren.... [notice that God gives us a guarantee]: ...Now, whom He predestinated, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified” (vs 28-30).

A present perfect to happen in the future, but it is as good as done if we remain faithful.

Verse 31: “What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us**... [which He is] ...**who can be against us?** He Who did not spare even His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how shall He not also grant us all things together with Him? Who shall bring an accusation against *the* elect of God? *God is the One* Who justifies. Who *is* the one that condemns? *It is Christ* Who died, but rather, Who is raised again, Who is even *now* at *the* right hand of God, *and* Who is also making intercession for us” (vs 31-34)—*with the Holy Spirit and with Himself personally!*

Verse 35: “What shall separate us from the love of Christ?...”

Here’s all the things that were prophesied to happen, which have happened and are going to happen again:

“...*Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?” (v 35).

The world would look at this and say, ‘Why would you believe in a God Who would let you go through this? ***Because He has something greater for us!***’

Remember what happened when William Tyndale was let out to be executed. His last words were: ***O Lord, open the eyes of the King of England!*** Two years later Henry VIII left the Catholic Church and ordered a Bible put in every church. And for someone who couldn’t read, provide a reader. *Two years after Tyndale was martyred!* That’s an amazing thing. I wonder what he’s going to think when he’s resurrected! Look at this!

Verse 36: “Accordingly, it is written, ‘For Your sake we are killed all the day long; we are reckoned as sheep for *the* slaughter.’ But in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him Who loved us. For I am persuaded... [this is the persuasion we need to come to]: ...**that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord**” (vs 36-39).

***God will fight for us!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leveticus 23:6-10
- 2) 2 Corinthians 9:6-9
- 3) Numbers 33:1-4
- 4) Exodus 14:3-4, 8-18, 21-30
- 5) Exodus 15:22-27
- 6) Psalm 35:1-4
- 7) Psalm 34:1-4
- 8) Psalm 16:1-6
- 9) Psalm 17:13-15
- 10) Isaiah 41:8-11
- 11) Isaiah 44:6-8
- 12) Isaiah 12:1-6
- 13) 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
- 14) Galatians 5:22-23
- 15) 2 Corinthians 10:5-6
- 16) Hebrews 12:1-4
- 17) Romans 8:14-20, 22-24, 26-39

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Exodus 14:5-7
- Revelation 21; 22
- Genesis 1
- Galatians 3
- Revelation 11

Also referenced: Book:

- *From a Speck of Dust to a Son of God: Why Were You Born?*
- Transcript Book w/CD: *Overcoming the Sin Within*

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