



Alabaster Ministries

He shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and meet for the master's use and prepared unto every good work." 2 Tim 2:21

8514 N. Donna Ct. Kansas City, MO 64153 (816)503-6177

Roz Heyns

August 2014

Dearest Partners and Friends,

I have just completed a three thousand mile trip across the eastern United States. It was wonderful to see what God is doing amongst His remnant and praise Him that He always has a remnant.

In most places I ministered on, "Turning Aside to Meet with God." In our very busy lives we do not allow the Holy Spirit to call us aside to hear what God is saying to us on a personal level. We do not make the time to grow in Him and in many churches I find that pastors are not getting a fresh new Word from God for their flock but rather they are regurgitating something they have seen on the television or something they have read in a book. There is little preaching going on and a lot of teaching with overhead diagrams that are taken from someone else's book. AND the teaching is often so confused that I cannot understand it and I am not a stupid person. The reason it is confused is because the pastor has not received the revelation for himself. How can we teach something when we ourselves do not get it in its totality? It is time for us to get fresh manna from heaven every day. If that means getting up earlier in the morning then do it. If the children of Israel did not collect the manna before the sun came up each day except the Sabbath of course, then it rotted.

We need a new anointing each day – a fresh one from the Holy Spirit. Have you ever passed by a fast food restaurant when the oil has not been changed for some time? It STINKS! Our oil from decades ago, last year, last month, last week even, STINKS! We think that when we are filled with the Holy Spirit that is sufficient and it will carry us for the rest of our lives. It is no wonder that the church is so weak and ineffective.

When did we last hear a sermon on sanctification? Sanctification follows justification. In justification our sins are completely forgiven in Christ. Sanctification is the process by which the Holy Spirit makes us more like Christ in all that we do, think, and desire. True sanctification is impossible apart from the atoning work of Christ on the cross because only after our sins are forgiven can we begin to lead a holy life.

Numbers 20:12 *And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.* What a price to pay after all that Moses and Aaron did in the wilderness. First of all they told the children of

Israel that they were going to bring forth the water, "Must we fetch you water out of this rock?" We should never take God's glory and yet we see it happen on a regular basis. God commanded that they take the rod and speak to the rock. The rod represented the miracles of God. Every time a miracle happened in Egypt the rod was used. It was this rod that was raised to part the sea. They had both just had an amazing visitation from the Lord at the entrance to the tabernacle – Num 20:6 *And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they fell upon their faces: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them.* In spite of that and all the other glorious times Moses had with the Lord he never did overcome his anger and he struck the rock instead of speaking to it. The Rock represents Jesus – Jesus is the Rock of our salvation and from Him flow the waters of life. He was so angry with Israel when he came down the mountain with the Commandments that he threw them on the ground and they broke. The Commandments were not His to break. That ended up costing him another 40 days on the mountain in prayer and fasting. In our anger we say and do things that never should be said or done. Things that destroy and often try to place those we are angry with back under the law instead of grace. We may look at these sins as being small considering all that Moses and Aaron had achieved but man, more often than not, places God on a level with himself and we cannot understand why God does some of the things He does. The Word says that God's ways are not our ways. Isaiah 55:8&9 *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."* We are not to question God's actions because there is no way we, as finite people, can ever understand the vastness and infinite God of the

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universe. We are one of the smallest planets in our galaxy, the Milky Way. In other planetary systems there are planets much vaster than our biggest planet making the earth look smaller than a pixel and yet God so loved you and me that He knows the number of hairs I have on my head and those numbers change every day. He created me unique from everyone else but we are never satisfied with that. We always want to be like someone else. Most of us never achieve the unique call He has for us as individuals but we die being a mere copy of someone else. That is because we do not meet Him in the desert. All we want is the Promise Land experience where we think we will be comfortable and we end up in idolatry because we did not find out His unique plan and purpose for our own personal lives.

It is time to meet with Him in the desert, to meet with Him at the burning bush so that the fire of His blessed Holy Spirit might flow from that bush and burn up all that is self, all the dross in our lives so that we might be sanctified in His sight.

2 Cor 6:17 *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."* Sanctification is separation unto God.

As I traveled this trip I did not see "one nation under god" or even a United States of America but a splintered nation. We do not have Americans but we have African Americans, Irish Americans, Polish Americans, Italian Americans and so on. The Bible says that in the end times, *"Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these are the beginnings of sorrows."* Mark 13:8. This is mentioned almost word for word in three out of the four Gospels. The translation for nation is "ethnos" meaning ethnic group. Ethnic group shall rise up against ethnic group.....

What has just taken place in Ferguson, MO is exactly the problem the United States faces because there are so many ethnic groups and depending on the outcome of the trial we may not have heard the end of it. It is time for American Christians, both black and white, and of every ethnic group to forget about racial issues and begin to pray that God will be in the midst of this situation and that His will be done. Let us forget about black and white, brown and yellow and let us look at ourselves as one nation under God. Yes we are a part of the "United States" but first and foremost we are of the City of God and we need to operate under His banner which is love. How can "men of God??" walk into situations and incite people to riot? In addition to that I did not see a united church of God and I am not talking about the unity that the Pope and Kenneth Copeland are talking. The Pope stated, "Brothers and sisters, Luther's protest is over. Is yours?" Oh my goodness, Luther's protest was that we are saved by grace and not by works. Islam believes that they are saved by works maybe, and their only definite way into paradise is to die in Jihad (Holy War). Surely we are living in the end times with the talk of a one world religion that will embrace all religions. So far Kenneth Copeland and James Robison have made the trip to the Vatican and before them Joel Osteen, Tim Timmons and the Arnotts along with the Green family who own Hobby Lobby. They were joined by Utah Senator Mike Lee who, of course is Mormon.

Wow! What an exciting time to be on the earth but we surely will have to go to the burning bush to be able to stand in these days. Some of the great men of the Bible spent time

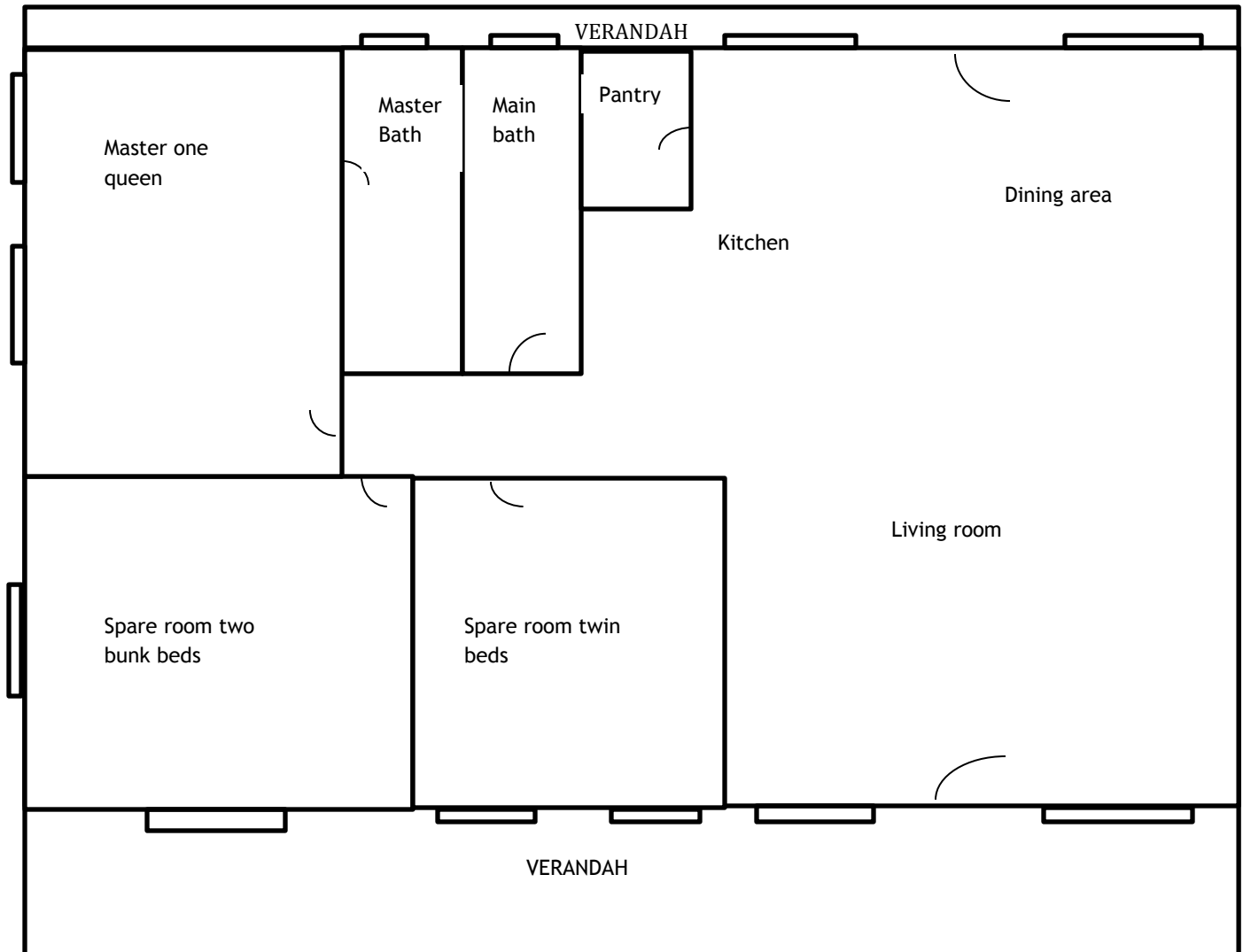
before the Lord and they were finally touched in some way by fire after which they could call out, "Here am I Lord, send me." Moses did after his burning bush experience; Isaiah did when he stood before the Lord in the temple and the angel took the coals from off the altar and touch them to his lips. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego experienced the fire but the Lord was with them too.

All it takes is for us to put God first in our lives, get off the path that we have been traveling on (self) be purified by His fire and submit to Him. Then we will get clear direction from Him and all that we do will be orchestrated by Him. We will be purified until the face of Jesus is reflected in us and He shines through us.



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8514 N DONNA CT
KANSAS CITY, MO 64153
(636)358-4615 (CELL)

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PLAN FOR THE HOUSE IN SOUTH MALAWI

We have started to make bricks for the center in Malawi. The above is the plan for a house for visitors and staff and it will enable us to spend more time in the area instead of just doing the deliveries and preaching while we do them. We will be able to stay and spend more time in the villages preaching and teaching. Bricks are also being made for the center which will double as a church and a conference center. We plan on building a two roomed cottage for a Pastor who will live on site. This will be similar to the cottages we build for the elderly.

At present we stay at a rest house in Nsanje where we are given breakfast and we have all other meals with Pastor McDonald. Every time we go the prices have risen on the rooms. There is nowhere to relax after a full day in the villages without being eaten alive by mosquitoes and often the water is turned off or there is no power.

At present our girls are safe as long as we keep them in school. They are considered far more valuable if they are educated and can be sold for a lot more money so we are continuing to do that.

We will eventually put in dormitories and a kitchen so that we can have a place of safety for the worst case scenarios. Those we have are now attending church and we are teaching them that they have a choice and can go to the authorities and report their guardians if they try to force them into early marriage or prostitution. The pastors in the various villages are also watching over these girls.

Please support the brick making project. I know that God seems to work only when we begin to put our hand to the

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plough and trust Him to bring in the finances. The photos below are of the lodge where we normally stay. Most of the time the fans do not work or there is a power failure. We had to call them and get the rooms cleaned on our arrival.



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If you're going through hell,

keep going.

— Winston Churchill

