



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

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Dearest Friends,
I was recently in a small church that has just opened its doors. The pastor and his family are not American and I believe that he feels a call to America because there is a genuine need and hunger amongst many to experience God in all of His glory. No hype, no ostentation, no competition – just open wide the doors and let the Holy Spirit have His way in the meeting. Does that mean there are no churches experiencing God? Of course not! There are no shortages of churches in America but in how many do we find the manifested presence of God day after day and week after week?

There was no praise team in this church – just a CD of “OLD STUFF.” While I agree that we need to hear and sing the new song there are some extremely anointed “old” songs and especially hymns. What can be more anointed than?

“Praise my soul the King of Heaven
To His feet thy tribute bring
Ransomed, healed, restored forgiven
Who like me His praise should sing
Praise Him! praise Him!
Praise the everlasting King!

Father-like, He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes,
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Widely as His mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore Him;
Ye behold Him face to face:
Sun and moon, bow down before Him;
Dwellers all in time and space,
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise with us the God of grace!

All too often we have set aside the wonderful, glorifying hymns and songs and we sing songs that are more about us than they are about Him..... more about what He has done for us or can do for us rather than how glorious He is. It is past time to once again place the focus on Him who is our All in All, who is my God and King and the Master of my destiny. He is the Dictator in my life. As we sang along to this “OLD STUFF” we were transported into His very throne room and I was filled with awe and

rapture once again as I beheld His beauty. It could have gone on all day as far as I was concerned. If our worship were always like that then we would not have to place time limits on our services and make our churches “seeker friendly.” The Holy Spirit Who is the “Seeker” would bring people in and transport them.

When finally it was time for the message the Holy Spirit was present in that small hotel room. The message was simple and yet profound and we all knew that Pastor has been waiting for news as to where he is going and where to take the church. He said that there was lots to pray about and though there seemed to be a number of “irons in the fire” he was not going to voice anything but the church was just to “Stay!” How wise!!! Too often we blab our plans and purposes to the whole world and then we wonder why there is confusion. We need to keep our treasure in the chest and not allow the enemy to come and thwart what God has purposed for us. I believe that simple word is a word that many of us need to hear. “STAY!” Be still and silent as you wait upon Him to give direction and then step into it. The more we talk about “our” plans even though they might be spiritual and lofty plans for the extension of the Kingdom the more confused we become and when we are confused, those around us become confused.

Some time ago I was talking to someone about their vision. There were so many irons in the fire and each of them was wonderful but when I asked what the purpose was behind all of these – why the building and doing and going and running I was given no effective answer. Our purpose here is not to make a name for ourselves or “our” ministry (which isn’t ours at all but God’s). We are here to love Him with all of our being and love His creation as He does. The only way we can do that is when His love is shed

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abroad in our hearts. I think about all those unsung heroes in the obscure places of the earth. They have given everything for the sake of the Gospel but no-one knows their names EXCEPT in heaven their names are written in the annals of eternity. We need to ensure that whatever we do will not go down in the history books here on earth but it will be written about in heaven. That man does not sing our praises but the angels in heaven rejoice. Every time we lead someone to the Lord the whole of heaven rejoices. We never know what response our actions will draw. Where is the compassionate church that reaches out to a lost and dying world? When we get back into that place of worship and intimacy with the Lord surely some of His attributes will become ours? Jesus was never moved to pity but He always operated out of compassion or empathy. Empathy means identification. I can easily reach out when I can identify. I remember going to a show once and the entertainer sat on a stool for almost two hours and talked. We laughed with him and cried with him and afterwards I wondered what it was that had kept us captivated all that time -

IDENTIFICATION! He had simply related family stories and they were all things that had or could have happened in our family.

An acquaintance was discussing someone with me once and mentioned that they had no empathy, I was stunned because it is not a word that is used very often and I had once heard it used in a film I was watching about the Nuremburg trials. The American prosecutor visited every German who was on trial and when asked by a reporter what he felt was the common thread he replied that every single one of those on trial lacked empathy.

May we so have the heart of God and be moved by Him in all that we do! Let us not do things for the sake of doing them but only as and when He directs us and empowers us. May we do everything out of a compassionate heart. May we see people as He does. I want to be able to look through the crud and see the gem as He does. We look at circumstances and make a judgment instead of seeing a solution. In Christ there is always a solution. Let us get back to the Throne Room because it is there we will always find the answer. In Him!

MALAWI

Things are progressing so well with the building project in Malawi. There are five villages that are participating and we now have eight houses that are almost completed. The villagers are very excited as are we. It is important that these homes are finished as soon as possible so that people see that what we said we would do is coming to pass. So many times in the Kingdom we make a promise and for whatever reason we do not see it through. In Africa if you tell people you are going to do something they take you at your word. As Christians we should never say that we are going to do something and then never get around to it. It makes our testimony worthless.

I am returning to Malawi at the end of August and by then am hoping that all of the homes will be completed and the elderly will have moved in. We will dedicate the homes and I will be taking plaques out with me that we will place on the door of each house - "Abba's House."

You remember Chasa Tchale, the old lady with the broken arm who would not go to the hospital? Here is her new home. Since December her daughter has died but she still continues.



OLD



NEW

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We're on the Web.
See us at: rozheyns.org
You can donate on line.
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I have been making more enquiries regarding solar cooking and have found a company in California who can supply the oven and the pot for cooking for \$25. I am trying to establish if these are manufactured in India in which case it would be advantageous for us to purchase there and have them shipped rather than shipping from here. If there is anyone who knows anything about solar cooking or solar ovens please contact this office with your ideas. The elderly were asking for cooking pots last time I was there. If we purchase for the open fire then they need to be made of cast iron and those are expensive. It would be better to be able to purchase these solar cookers which come with a pot.



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MALAWI GIRLS

We are beginning to find numerous young girls in the area who cannot attend school because their parents prefer to pay school fees for their sons. Parents are insisting that these girls, little more than children, be married instead to bring in finances for the family. Africa is still polygamist and if a man is rich enough he can have numerous wives. There is still a "Bride Price" or "labola" as we call it in Africa which means the man has to pay for the bride – either in cattle or money or some form of goods. This is being abused as girls are getting younger and younger.

We plan to try to keep some of these girls in school by paying the school directly and by purchasing their uniforms ourselves so that there is no abuse with finances. For those girls who are being molested we eventually plan to have a place of shelter where they can come and feel safe.

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