



September 2020  
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# ALABASTER MINISTRIES

# UPDATE

Dear Friends and Partners,

Romans 5:5 *"And hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us."*

I know I have shared with you before on this scripture but it bears repeating over and over again. In these days when the devil has set man against man and children against parents, brothers against sisters and so on we need to grasp an understanding of this scripture.

I am shocked at the hate and vitriol that is so apparent in this nation. Parents who tell their children that it is wrong to hate or even to use the word are doing exactly that. They say they do not hate but it is hard to believe when you hear the pure evil being spewed forth from their mouths. The Word says: Lk 6:45 *A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.* Ultimately God puts leaders into power and He has His reasons for doing so and He commands that we pray for our leadership whether we agree with them or we do not, whether we like them or not.

God's purpose in our lives is that HIS love may seize us. To that end He has given us the gift of the precious Holy Spirit who resides in you and me. Oh, how I love the working of the Holy Spirit in my life and how I thank Him for leaving His place beside God the Father in heaven to come and dwell in you and me. He left His place in glory and subjected Himself to the stench and degradation of this world so that He could live in us and for the most part we do not take advantage of what He has come to give us. He is the Spirit of TRUTH. The Spirit does not operate through the "feelings" of man, rather man should be operating through the power of the Holy Spirit Who dwells within us.

From our first connection with the Spirit of TRUTH the love of God should begin to attract and change us. When it does, divine love becomes active in our lives. It is so real for me because I have experienced it. I pray to operate more and more in the love of God. There are times when I find myself loving the unlovely and God uses that to attract people to Him. There is nothing more powerful than love – Agape love – I will love you despite all. I do not care who you are or what you have done, especially when it comes to doing things against me. It took Peter three times to get the point when Jesus asked him if Peter loved Jesus. The Holy Spirit wants to change our love from Phileo

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"He shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and meant for the master's use and prepared for every good work."

love to Agape love.

I have often said that Jesus never operated out of sympathy (definition - pity or sorrow), He only ever operated out of compassion. Compassion, empathy, compels us to do something to alleviate someone else's situation and to keep on doing it even when we do not seem to see results. An example is the Good Samaritan. Let me refresh your memory. A Jew is set upon by thugs and savagely beaten and robbed. Two priests walk by and do not even stop to help then along comes a Samaritan who was regarded by Jews as the dregs of the earth. He stops and binds up the wounds and pays for the room at the Sheridan for the Jew to recover. That is compassion. The first and foremost compassion we should have is for those who are lost and dying. We can only operate in compassion when the love of God resides within us through the operation of the Holy Spirit in our lives. It means that we can identify with those who are suffering. If we hold any prejudice in our hearts toward a person, people, nation, color, creed then we are unable to identify with them, love them or have compassion for them. Jesus died because of the great love Father God has for you and I. How I long to experience the compassion of Jesus in a world of hate and degradation. God made us in His image but He gave us all free choice to follow and to do whatsoever. Some choose to follow their father satan who is the father of lies and there is no depth to which they will descend. If He had not given us free choice then we would have no need of a compassionate Savior and we would be nothing but clones. People ask me why God does not stop what happens in the world. God is sovereign but there have been only one handful of cases in the Word where God has operated sovereignly - creation was one, the virgin birth, the resurrection was another. God uses you and me to change history and He has throughout time. Noah could have declined in building the ark. After all there was no such a thing as rain back then. He could have told God it was too big a project for him. David could have refused to go up against Goliath as did the rest of Israel. Moses could have refused to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt. Ezekiel could have refused to prophesy to the valley of dry bones.

When we are filled with His love and compassion, we will so desire to do His will. We can argue with Him but we will carry out His commands for us and He will be the source and supply. It does not take someone who is a giant in the faith, all it takes is an obedient vessel.



This is how the Father reacts when one of us surrenders to Him. Lk 15:7 *"I say unto you that likewise more joy shall be in Heaven over one sinner that repenteth, than over ninety and nine just persons who need no repentance."*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "We must learn to regard people less in the light of what they do or omit to do, and more in the light of what they suffer." Compassion does not mean that we are necessarily in agreement.

I thank God every day that my past, present and future are under the Blood of Jesus. When God looks at me, He sees the precious Blood of Jesus. So many people who are aware of our past want to bring it up. That is what the devil does. He comes to condemn us by sitting on our shoulder to whisper in our ear and remind us of our past. Condemnation is a reminder of what is in the past so that we never feel free, especially those who are legalists. I am telling you that that is exactly where the devil wants us - living in the past! Jesus came so that our past is forgiven and we have been set free. No amount of someone reminding you should make a "hill of beans." Either the Word of God is yes and amen or we just need to throw in the towel and surrender.

God has forgiven us and He has given us the gift of the Holy Spirit to fill us with every one of His attributes and that includes the love of God which has been shed abroad in my heart and yours for those who are unlovely, lost and dying. What an amazing gift we have been given and we need to begin to operate in it.

**Alabaster Ministries**

## ABOUT US

### We, Alabaster Ministries

are based in the United States with a tax-deductible status under 501(c)(3).

We also have representation in the United Kingdom and are covered by Stewardship Services

Our representatives there are Michael and Penny Shellswell.

Phone: +44-7780-383452 (Michael)  
+44-7551974316 (Penny)

In Malawi we have Oresti and Julie Yiannakis who are a wonderful support and without whom it would be extremely difficult for us to operate.

Our staff comprise of local Malawians, and volunteer staff in the USA and UK.

It is our belief that we should train the locals to one day be able to totally run every aspect of the ministry in their nation and to train the next generation to one day take over while we support and give advice where needed.

God has blessed us with an amazing team of people who are always ready and willing no matter what comes against us. God is in charge and is faithful when we are about His business.

This is an exciting ministry to be a part of and we so appreciate your support.

## CONTACT US

**You can support this exciting and vibrant ministry by sending checks to:**

**Alabaster Ministries**

**8514 N Donna Ct**

**Kansas City, MO 64153**

**OR**

**Via the web site direct to PayPal.**

**OR**

**Cash App: \$alabastermin**

**OR**

**Venmo: Rozella Heyns@Rozella-Heyns**



**Telephone (636)358-4615**



**Email alabastermin@aol.com**

**Email rozheyms@gmail.com**



**Website: www.rozheyms.org**

## REPORT FROM PASTOR FRANCIS:

Please receive greetings in the most wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is our hope and prayer that the Lord continues to preserve you and bring you from glory to glory.

Our neighboring Mozambique is going through another challenging time dealing with Moslem insurgents from the North who have been destabilizing the country. Some say that there are some elements which were ISIL sympathizers and are now creating problems in the area so there has been an increase in border patrols. We had a situation that could have escalated into a terrible affair 15 kilometers south of Tengani where soldiers conducting these patrols came close to a farming village at Chazuka. (The village where Eric lives). The Mozambican army came to shake down people crossing from Malawi to tend to their small plots of land on the Mozambique side. A couple of disgruntled men decided to take matters into their own hands and wrestled with the soldiers. The disgruntled gang managed to disperse the soldiers but it was not before a few men disarmed a soldier and made away with his AK 47 rifle. That opened a can of worms and for days following the incident the embarrassed soldiers went on a, "roughing up the locals both domestically and across the Shire into Mozambique." The authorities from both nations quickly responded to the situation and the culprits were apprehended.

Covid 19 continues to unfold with recent reports indicating there could be a resurgence of the Pandemic since most people have relaxed because of the rapid decrease in COVID-19 cases. There are fears that the statics given are indeed accurate however the encouraging low numbers in reported infections could be because of low testing facilities in the country. There have been substantial shifts in the economy and society that have taken place following the pandemic and these unprecedented changes have introduced major uncertainties into our familiar structures. These changes and uncertainties have challenged our ways of life world-wide and it will be some time before the world systems can come out this pandemic resiliently.

In Mathew 24, Jesus said to his disciples *"Do you see these things? Verily I say to you, there shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. Take heed therefore, that no man may deceive you. You shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, see that ye be not troubled, for all these things must come to pass but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places."* We have established without a shadow of doubt that Pestilences have come and gone and there is more to come. We know from history of the pandemics and epidemics that terrorized the world. It is amazing that now we are alive and living through the prophecy Jesus gave. These are the times the church must rise to the occasion and be on the frontlines with prayer. We know that the Lord gives us comfort from promises that are in the power of His word and under His blood so that even when pestilences come, we shall be preserved. The Lord makes a profound promise in Exodus 23:25, *the Lord promises to TAKE AWAY SICKNESS from our midst And you shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.* I believe that God is true to His word and beloved I believe He will take pestilence away from His people, even today when the entire world is reeling from the effects of the current pandemic. He has and is preserving our elderly. Over the past year we have lost three of them and they have died from old age.

The world has not really been in a state of tranquility for decades now. There is a backdrop of a different types of world aggression from the deposing of governments, civil rights revolutions, economic sanctions following the threat of amassing deadly weapons, trade wars and military showdowns, rumors of some war about to break out, civil wars that have completely devastated nations and the continued rise in refugees in diaspora. We have seen these tragic events astonishingly tumbling one over the other in shocking succession. I was watching Aljazeera News Network the other day and they had a Japanese doctor growing live corals to save a tiny island in the pacific. Preserving the island would give Japan about 300 kilometers of territory in the pacific and some other nations already had issues with that. Nations are competing for superiority on land, in the air, and on God's freely given waters.

Civilization has been tussling with doom and disaster. The world is almost at the point where they will accept peace at any price and the stage is set for a man to step forward and offer it.

We are currently living the worst times in the best of times and ought to count ourselves blessed to be alive at such a time when the mysteries in the word of God are clearly unfolding before our very eyes. The thriving oasis that was the world has now been turned into pandemonium so that it is extremely easy to be overwhelmed and confused by everything that is happening around us. Our humanistic philosophy and nature have taught us to accept the comforts of proximity among ourselves when in fact we are desperate for a decent community. The dictionary defines a community as a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common; or a community can also be defined as the condition of sharing or having certain attitudes and interests in common. If we, as a people, do not realize that we are dependent on one another in this community we live in, it is doubtful that we will continue to thrive. The body of Christ is one such a community that used to flourish off the greatest gift which is love but recently we seem to have been bogged down in our selfishness and sin nature. It is clear there is no real love among us just by looking at all the events that are happening around us and we, the church, are doing very little to change it. The Lord Jesus said, *"love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. He said love your neighbor as you love yourself."* I noticed how the scriptures first assert reverence to the almighty, and then makes emphasis that we ought to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. It is love God, love your brother, sister, friend, then love yourself. There is not a mention of selfishness for love in and of itself is selfless and unconditional. We have a fiery pandemic on the prowl, several tumultuous situations happening simultaneously around the world but mankind is incredibly determined to destroy one another and spread hatred rather than love. We now hate each other because of what we believe in, because of the nature of our being, because of the color of our skin and whatever reason we chose to coat hatred in. I wonder if this is not another Cain and Abel situation. It is not a skin thing but a sin nature thing. Cain and Abel were brothers but Cain full of hatred and envy sinned in his heart and killed his brother. We have some people today who are so full of hate for their fellows that they fail to see the likeness God in them.

I believe that the time has come for the body of Christ to demonstrate our theology in our sociology. I strongly believe that it takes our reverence and love for God, and the love for our neighbors to cut across the borderlines of proximity and establish a great community where all can live in harmony with one another. It is shocking to see leaders of the faith drop everything that is in the Word and compromise in the worst manner to spread hate rather than the love of Christ that heals all. Page 4

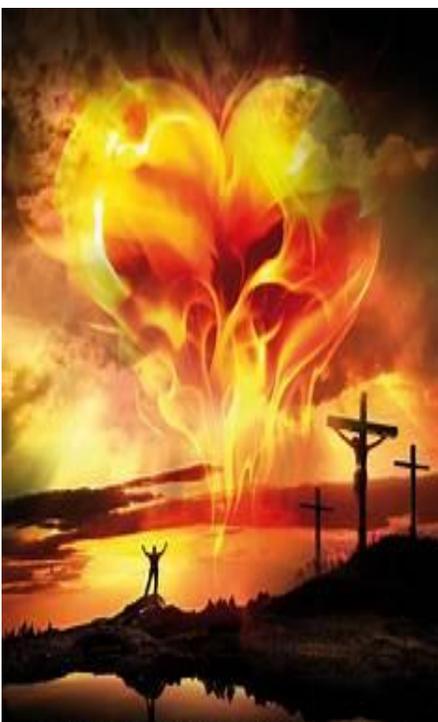
The sad part is that the body of Christ seems to be sleeping at the wheel and soon it will be impossible to differentiate between the two extremes of wrongs. AND NOW without a shadow of a doubt, while the church was in a deep slumber pestilence has unfolded, brother has turned against brother, nations are pitted against each other in a deadly tumble for supremacy, wars are unfolding, rumors of wars are echoing, fear-uncertainty-and hatred are being propagated at an alarming scale.

It is not enough to have a Christian vocabulary without having a demonstration of our faith just as faith being demonstrated through works are wings of the same bird. Apostle Paul says in Romans chapter 12:3, *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly according as hath God dealt to every man the measure of faith."* It is one thing to have faith inside you but it another thing to release it and we release our faith through a point of contact. God has given us faith to receive from Him and to use what we receive by releasing our provisions from Him through a point of contact. We know of the saving power of love and God has given us love. He even went further with the demonstration of that love. We ought to have faith enough to demonstrate and share the message of love to the world. When we use the word of God and preach it, that becomes our point of contact. It is the sheer demonstration of our faith and that is all the world needs and that so much more in abundance. Imagine Moses coming to the Red Sea, with the mixed multitude behind him shouting, "MOSES the Egyptians are coming with an army, what do we do now?" God told Moses to raise his staff to perform a wondrous miracle. The staff or rod was the point of contact. Moses raised his rod to the heavens and released his faith and thus the waters parted. Moses became one with his point of contact. If we believe God in our hearts, then the word of God and the promises of Christ become our point of contact. If we believe in the great message of love, it will become a great point of contact and the world can really use the true healing that comes with it.

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Frederick Faber said in his hymn:  
FOR THE LOVE OF GOD IS BROADER THAN  
THE MEASURES OF A MAN'S MIND  
AND THE HEART OF THE ETERNAL IS MOST  
WONDERFULLY KIND.  
IF OUR LOVE WERE BUT MORE FAITHFUL, WE  
SHOULD REST UPON GOD'S WORD  
AND OUR LIVES WOULD BE THANKSGIVING  
FOR THE GOODNESS OF OUR LORD.  
The love of God is real and it will never change.  
He loves us simply because it is His nature to  
love. The love of God cannot and will never  
change. It cannot change at any time in our  
lives for He is the very embodiment of eternity  
and excellence. The book of Hebrews says He  
is the same today, yesterday, and forever. The  
Lord God does not love us because Jesus died  
for us on that cross at Calvary but Christ died  
for us because God first loved us. John 3:16  
clearly drives this truth home. *"For God so  
loved the world that He gave His only begotten  
Son, that whoever believes in Him should not  
perish but have everlasting life."*

