

Jer. 33:3 "Call unto me and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

We should not be surprised that all the world is at war this afternoon. It has all been prophesied in God's Book and now it is upon us in all the length and breadth of God's world. The world with its Science and Wealth and Intellectualism has promised us so many great things. They have said, if only we would have free education and men and women get their fill of education and become intellectual and understand the mysteries of basic science, that we would have a better world. We have free education and intellectualism and Science and Invention and we have wealth and we have plenty, and yet, in the face of all these conditions that were supposed to bring us into that Millennial state, we find the worst chaos the world has ever seen.

Human nature was never as despicable as it is today. It doesn't have to revert to the nature of the beast or barbarian, because there never was a barbarian that was akin to the Judas Iscariot spirit that is in the world today. The bible says: "They shall not cleave to one another" and that is true. One day they are cleaving, and another day, asunder. The clay is mixed with iron -- an impotent condition as far as the Government is concerned. All the things that were supposed to do us good have miserably failed. Intellectualism has never brought satisfaction. Gold and wealth has never given peace to the soul. Rather, the reverse is true. Everything to which man has put his hand has become a boomerang and it has rebounded on the world with cursing. Why? Because all those things are of the world. They are of the kingdom of the world -- sensual and devilish.

The god of this world has blinded the hearts of the people and their ears so they can neither hear nor understand the mighty issues involved in this strife. You and I know we are in the lashing of the dragon's tail. He has just about received the death blow. Satan thought, when he had Christ on the cross, that he had finished the course of Christ-likeness and Christianity and had brought destruction on man because he buried the most perfect thing God ever made in man -- the people of a new creation. It was something when the devil got Christ on the cross. That devil stalked Christ every day and sought His life. What a marvelous and wonderful gospel this is that you and I have been getting through Jesus Christ, the Lord, in these last days and times. I tell you it becomes more marvelous to me for the simple reason it is true and God is able to control even the Nations.

You and I need to know that when you go to living on your feelings that anything can happen to us. That is just a "feeling gospel". But your feelings will never damm you nor save you. We have got to have a real contact with God and to really know that the testimony of Christ is the Spirit of Prophecy and over and above all the sayings and writings of man, the sayings and writings of God are absolute supreme and they are dependable. When you get that thing in your heart you cannot let go or backslide anymore that a ship fastened to a pier can go when the moorings hold. If you will get this word of God in your heart you won't drift because it is a Rock, and that is just the way I feel. I feel like a rock, and I am not going on my feelings, either. I am just telling you how it works inside. The time comes when you cannot hold yourself, but if you have the Word of God it is more enduring than the Heaven above or the earth beneath. There are going to be times in the future when you and I think the world is going to pass away, but if it does you will know that the Word in your heart will not pass away. God will hold you and keep you.

"The Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah a second time when he was yet shut up in prison." It does not make any difference whether you are in jail or out, if it is for the gospel, iron bars cannot keep it from you. God laughs at iron bars. When your heart is right and ready to receive it, and in the condition God wants it to be in order for Him to pour into your make-up the wonderful Word of God, nothing can keep it from you. Jeremiah spent a lot of time in jail because he honored that Word of God in spite of all that Kings or anyone could do.

When you have God in your heart He will lift you above present conditions, whatever they may be. The Word of the Lord kept coming to Jeremiah. As long as he needed the encouragement of God, God spoke to him and Jeremiah would look up at those tormentors and say to them. "You are going into Babylon and captivity for 70 years", and into captivity they went. They died, but God said to Jeremiah, "I will give you your life for a prey." In this case a reward, "They shall not be able to touch or take your life." It is great, and you and I have something secreted within that the world cannot take from us -- a life that the world cannot kill. If they shut off this testimony I will get a better one. If they bring this life to a close, I will open up a life in God that will never close. It is wonderful to know God is with us in these last days and times.

May God get us out of this quiescent attitude. Jude said we should earnestly contend for the faith once and for all delivered unto the saints. It is a good thing for us to remember that the power of God still holds. The Lord is near. "Call on me and I will answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowedst not." That should be an encouragement to us. The Lord said it to us.

"Behold, a host encompassed the city both with horses and chariots. My Master, what shall we do?" "Fear not, for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." A young man was talking to Elisha and he just looked out, and around about the city were a great host of the Armies that had come down there to get the man of God. And the servant of Elisha could see that great host. It doesn't always pay to be dismayed by what you see. It is so easy for our natural mind to be swayed by what we see and our nature becomes preverted with unbelief because we are looking at what we see.

But the man of God said to the young man, "Fear not, for they that be with us are greater than they that be with that great host." I suppose the young man said, "Just you and me here, and outside there are tens of thousands with chariots and horsemen and a great host of soldiers and they have come to get you." And Elisha said, "Fear not" It is hard to understand it. It is so easy to look upon the thing you can see and be moved by the visible. But, thank God, Elisha was a man that had understanding of things you cannot see, and if ever there was a people that today should understand the reality of the invisible forces it is God's people. It is just too bad to depend merely on what you can see. It is the mistake of Christians today. God's people have never been taught to depend on what they can see and what they can visualize of strength and power, but it is what you cannot see that you and I need to know and understand.

Elisha took a moment off and said, "Lord, open his eyes that he may see." II Kings 6:14,17 He didn't pray a week or a month or a year. Elisha prayed, "Lord, open this young man's eyes and let him see what I saw." What made the Prophet so calm and satisfied and perfectly at ease in his house? Because of that inner spiritual vision that showed him the power of God and Elisha could see the thing that the doubtful young man could not see. Unbelief will blind you quicker than anything else in this world. It will blind the eyes and stultify your spiritual vision until you cannot see anything but the present danger. The Lord opened the eyes of the young man and he saw and beheld that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire around about Elisha. I always did think there was something marvelously close to us that made us feel safe when we really were in danger.

It is wonderful for you and for me to know today, friends, that there is something in us in which God is interested. God is not interested in your money or what you give. That is a matter for you and you will have to account for that yourself before you get into Glory. God has told us that one-tenth of everything belongs to Him and when you have given a tithe, you have not given a thing. That belongs to God. But the bible does say "Tithes and offerings" and some day, while God is not interested in it now, there are those in the Glory world who are and they are keeping tab on what you and I are giving. God is interested in the spirit that is on us to use what we have. It is marvelous for us to know there is something in us that God loves and honors and is determined to salvage and save. That wonderful Spirit of God that is in you and me; that spirit of man that has been in touch with the Divine Spirit. God is interested to throw around about you, all the protections and powers of His Holy Spirit. Paul told the Ephesians, "In Him we live and move and have our Being." God is all about us. We are not left alone. It is a marvelous thing for you and for me to get our eyes open to the fact that God loves us. The Prophet tells us that the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout all the earth. What is He looking for? Seeking to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward Him. God is looking for men and women like this.

In your own mind you are setting up impossible standards for yourself. You are telling yourself that perfection is one of the impossible things. Most Christians are looking for perfection in the wrong place. I will agree with you that a life dominated by the Holy Ghost completely will bring this human nature of ours into such consecration that God almost has to translate us right here and now. But a perfect heart in the inner sanctuary of your soul..... when your life is lived hidden with Christ in God; when your thought life is blended into the thought life of Heaven above; when your heart knows nothing but Jesus and you have no other strength and help and support and reward but the Glory of God in the ultimate of your salvation; when your heart turns to the Word of God continually and you love God more than anything else on this earth, then your heart is a perfect heart.

You do see men and women in this life whose life does not seem to be perfect, but God does not judge after the looks of things. There are so many spiritual liars on this earth; so many who have not caught the depths of God's love in such a way as to cause them to keep their mouths shut against their neighbor. In Jesus' Name, do get away from those petty things that monopolize so much time in the lives of infant Christians. Have your life fixed in God and while your life does not seem to be perfect, what do you care what they think as long as the motive of your life is in line with God's Word. Thank God, we have a Judge that doesn't judge after the sight of His eye, but God judges after the standards of His own righteous acts.

Many people, at the time when Jesus was on this earth, considered Him a terrible criminal. If we have a perfect heart towards God our faith tells us everything is all right. This young man needed his eyes opened. Christianity needs to get its eyes open in these last days and times that they may know God is going to hold them closer to the standard of His Word. This young man did not know there was anyone taking care of Elisha, but there was. You and I need to get our eyes open and to know the plans and purposes of God are actually fixed. God is determined to save you if you will be saved. He is determined that our ignorance should be banished and we should know, right now, the plan and purpose of God. These invisible armies of God have been around about the people of God, that hell cannot get by during these last days. God wants you and me to prosecute the days of our lives with the first knowledge of Himself, that we seek first the Kingdom of God and He will take care of the rest. God wants us to reach the place in faith, that in spite of all the devil and hell think, our loved ones will be saved. Faith is the victory! God is not so much interested in the body of our flesh because that is to be disposed of. Flesh and blood can never inherit the Kingdom of God. It cannot get in and thank God, it can't. It is excluded. This shows to you and me that there is, within us, that eternal thing that is always in contact with God. You know when you are doing wrong and you correct it and get the cleansing blood of Christ on you. You know when you are doing right because there is a praise in your spirit. It is a marvelous thing to know the Holy Ghost is about us to take care of that life. You and I cannot see these forces any more than the young man could, but faith tells us it is so. The Word of God has promised to do it and He will accomplish it if you and I live our lives in the faith of the only Begotten Son of God.

"Call on me," said the Lord to Jeremiah, "And I will answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things that thou knowest not." That is the condition you and I should approach today. We want to see God's power come into literal accomplishment against the power of the devil, Satan, and we want to know that God has ordained our salvation for ourselves and for our loved ones. Amen.

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