

88 – God is calling! You Coming?

These studies took a different turn in the past couple of weeks, leading up to the New Year, and tonight, it appears we are continuing the turn. Where we're going tonight we will have to be very alert in the spirit to get the message the Lord is delivering to the Body of Christ in this hour, I believe. The scriptures we're going to look at are ones I believe you'll want to pour over yourself and consider. I have been hearing in my spirit for weeks if not months that God is moving, and He's moving quickly, so long as people are saying yes. "Quickly" is the word I hear repeated in the spirit over and over, and the image I see is God calling us forward and drawing His line behind us that others won't be able to cross. We'll see this example tonight in the story of Israel's preparation to cross the Jordan, and the actual march through a river that God held back, and dried the ground under their feet, just like He did the Red Sea when He took them out of slavery.

The word on the heels of the New Year was this: **"God is on the move — quickly — going into 2012. He's sounding the trumpet, so we better be saying "YES" and moving WITH Him!"** Today is our day and it's likely our ONLY day! There's no time to hang back, and it won't work anymore to drag our heels, or think God's going to take a number in our "waiting room" while we "work out our stuff." He's NOT waiting...he's MOVING, and we're invited to go with Him; to "set out" at His command, just like the children of Israel set out when the cloud lifted. There is no longer occasion to think that God will hold back the progress of His purpose of the eons for us to make up our minds as to whether we're going with Him or not. Now, the truth is that God has NEVER held off His purpose for anyone; but we appear to be in a new season and it would be well to recognize it and step into it with our eyes open, with our hearts willing, and with our minds under submission to our spirit and to God's Spirit.

Just to show you how fast things are moving and how important it is to just flow with the Holy Spirit, Barbara has been asked to share some stories that just came up in conversations today – one of which was less than an hour ago. Barbara: it's all yours.

BTW: the radio interview Barbara did this morning was recorded and you'll see a link on Scripture Doc.com, on Barbara's web site: BarbaraTaylor.tv, and on the Ministry web site: Kingdom Communications.org

I want to read to you the most recent posting on ScriptureDoc.com, put up on December 31, 2011, following at least three conversations that day, during which it felt like a trumpet was sounding and the Body of Christ was being called into formation to cross over a line God had drawn between the old year and the new...and, I believe, between everything old – stuff we may have been hanging on to – some we probably knew about and some we didn't -- and everything new that He has already prepared for us but which we couldn't enter into in an unclean state, just like the Jews couldn't take part in the feasts if they were "ceremonially unclean."

The "*Verse of the Day*" from Bible Gateway started the day with

Isaiah 43:16-21 (NIV):

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says —

He Who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters,

¹⁷ Who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:

¹⁸ "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

²⁰ The wild animals honor Me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to My people, My chosen, ²¹ the people I formed for Myself that they may proclaim My praise.

I finished the post with this:

Come midnight tonight, cross the river with God and take nothing from the "old land" with you, because He is "doing a new thing," and it's up to us to "perceive it." We must step into His "way in the wilderness" and drink from His "streams in the wasteland."

What I didn't write is that these are HIS ways and HIS streams – not ours – and He's made them FOR us...if we think we're going to make the way or the stream, I believe we will meet with utter futility and emptiness. We are living in the administration of God's grace and not law, but as we'll see, God is faithful to Himself and His purpose FIRST...and it's up to us to come into line with it in every aspect of our lives...and today is the day. Four years ago, God spoke into my spirit: "Say Yes. Say Yes to this because it's not coming around again." I hear Him saying the same thing to the Body of Christ today.

We're going to just flow with the Lord's Spirit tonight as we go through what He's showing. We may go long, or we may stop and continue next week. However He's flowing, we're going to be with it, AMEN? Bless His holy Name.

John 8: This is to me one of the most mysterious passages in all of the scriptures. The Pharisees have brought a woman caught in the act of adultery (notice they didn't bring the guy she was with – specifically to try Jesus by citing the law of Moses. They were trying to find something to accuse Him of because He was causing them such consternation, simply by being the righteousness of God, and holding to the spirit of the law rather than its letter. The last part of verse 6 is where the mystery starts

6... Now Jesus, stooping down, wrote down something with a finger in the earth.

7 Now as they persisted asking Him, He unbends and said to them, "Let the sinless one of you first cast a stone at her."

8 And, again stooping down, He wrote in the earth.

9 Now those hearing it came out one by one, beginning with the elders, to the last. And Jesus was left alone, the woman also being in the midst.

10 Now, unbending, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Does no one condemn you?"

11 Now she said, "No one, Lord!" Now Jesus said, "Neither am I condemning you. Go! From now on by no means any longer be sinning."]

12 Again, then, Jesus speaks to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world. He who is following Me should under no circumstances be walking in darkness, but will be having the light of life."

I have no idea what Jesus wrote in the dirt that day, but His actions remind me of God's handwriting on the wall in Daniel, and His writing of the law on the stone tablets. When the Lord writes with His own hand, the proud, stubborn and rebellious will simply leave. Nothing evil can stand in the presence of His words; but the hungry, the willing and the repentant ones...they can stay and receive the blessing of the Lord. Jesus drew the line that day, so to speak, and no one could cross it—or Him—Who didn't want all He had.

So now, let's imagine ourselves standing on the shore of the Jordan, listening to Moses for the last time:

Numbers 33:

⁵⁰ On the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho the LORD said to Moses, ⁵¹ “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When you cross the Jordan into Canaan, ⁵² drive out all the inhabitants of the land before you. Destroy all their carved images and their cast idols, and demolish all their high places. ⁵³ Take possession of the land and settle in it, for I have given you the land to possess. . . . (Jump to verse 55)
⁵⁵ “‘But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land, those you allow to remain will become barbs in your eyes and thorns in your sides. They will give you trouble in the land where you will live. ⁵⁶ And then I will do to you what I plan to do to them.’”

Numbers 35:

³⁴ Do not defile the land where you live and where I dwell, for I, the LORD, dwell among the Israelites.’”

Deuteronomy 1:

⁶ The LORD our God said to us at Horeb, “You have stayed long enough at this mountain. ⁷ Break camp and advance... (Jump to verse 8)
⁸ See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of the land the LORD swore he would give to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—and to their descendants after them.”

Picture frame

Moses spent the first 3 chapters of Deuteronomy recounting the journey he had taken with them over the previous 40 years. The whole nation of Israel was camped on the eastern shore of the Jordan river, and Moses had spiritual accountability to teach them the ways of God by recalling the journey they and their ancestors had taken. No one who crossed into the Promised Land was ignorant of God’s laws, His character, His personality, or His ways. They heard it all and saw it all, both nationally and personally in the life of Moses.

I’m asking each of you who are listening to this: have you not also seen the ways of God? Have you not also known His sovereign hand in your life? Will you now trust Him, look only to Him, worship ONLY Him, no matter what it may cost you personally? What the Lord has prepared for us, in Christ Jesus, with Him, in the celestials, is FAR surpassing what He had prepared for Israel!

Moses shared his cost in **Deuteronomy 3:**

¹⁸ I commanded you at that time: “The LORD your God has given you this land to take possession of it. But all your able-bodied men, armed for battle, must cross over ahead of the other Israelites. (that’s You, Brothers and Sisters; men and women of God)

Jump to verse 21

²¹ At that time I commanded Joshua: “You have seen with your own eyes all that the LORD your God has done to these two kings. (He’s referring to the Amorite and Midianite kings Bashan and Sihon—they were like the training camp for war before going across the Jordan – Everything that has led you here now has been for your training. EVERYTHING – there have been no accidents, and, in the sovereignty of God, not even any mistakes! It’s all been for your preparation, uniquely purposed by your Father in Heaven for precisely this time and place. Barbara says so often, if it happened before it’ll never happen again.) The LORD will do the same to all the kingdoms over there where you are going. ²² ***Do not be afraid of them; the LORD your God himself will fight for you.***” (read THAT again!)

Deuteronomy 4:

⁴ but all of you who held fast to the LORD your God are still alive today. (If you’re listening to my voice right now, you’re still alive, so keep going on with God!)

⁵ See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. ⁶ Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” ⁷ What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? ⁸ And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

(Here comes the warning)

⁹ Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

...

¹⁵ You saw no form of any kind the day the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the fire. Therefore watch yourselves very carefully, ¹⁶ so that you do not become corrupt and make for yourselves an idol, an image of any shape, whether formed like a man or a woman, ¹⁷ or like any animal on earth or any bird that flies in the air, ¹⁸ or like any

creature that moves along the ground or any fish in the waters below. ¹⁹ And when you look up to the sky and see the sun, the moon and the stars—all the heavenly array—do not be enticed into bowing down to them and worshiping things the LORD your God has apportioned to all the nations under heaven. ²⁰ But as for you, the LORD took you and brought you out of the iron-smelting furnace, out of Egypt, to be the people of his inheritance, as you now are.

...

³⁹ Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other. ⁴⁰ Keep his decrees and commands, which I am giving you today, so that it may go well with you and your children after you and that you may live long in the land the LORD your God gives you for all time.

Deuteronomy 6:4

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 9

¹ Hear, Israel: You are now about to cross the Jordan to go in and dispossess nations greater and stronger than you, with large cities that have walls up to the sky. ² The people are strong and tall—Anakites! You know about them and have heard it said: “Who can stand up against the Anakites?” ³ But be assured today that the LORD your God is the one who goes across ahead of you like a devouring fire. He will destroy them; he will subdue them before you. And you will drive them out and annihilate them quickly, as the LORD has promised you.

(Look at all that God does, and all that's left for us to do is mop up and if we'll just do it—go where He sends, Do what He says, and say what He gives us—It'll be a quick work. The Lord has promised you! Do you remember all the times we have visited Psalm 138:2: “For You have magnified your name, your promise over all else.” What God has promised will surely come to pass. Moses found that out when he questioned how God would feed over a million Israelites, and God covered them waist-deep in quail as far around as a 3-day walk)

Deuteronomy 10

¹² And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all

your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good? (That's how simple it is to be a child of God – Barbara says, "Just hear Him and do what He says!")

Jump to verse 16

¹⁶ Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. (take this to heart, body of Christ! This was spoken to Israel, who had only the Law, so how much more ought we to heed this instruction, who are In Christ and have The Spirit of God living inside us?) ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. ¹⁸ He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigners residing among you, giving them food and clothing. ¹⁹ And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. ²⁰ Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. ²¹ He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

Deuteronomy 11 – here comes the “if-then’s” – the blessing and the curse:

¹³ So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul— ¹⁴ then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and olive oil. ¹⁵ I will provide grass in the fields for your cattle, and you will eat and be satisfied.

¹⁶ Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them.

(This is the 2nd time we've seen this warning tonight, so listen up – there is no cruise control in Christ. BE CAEREFUL, **OR** – like Paul told Timothy, "What has been committed to you, GUARD!")

¹⁷ Then the LORD's anger will burn against you, and he will shut the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the LORD is giving you. ¹⁸ Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ¹⁹ Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ²⁰ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, ²¹ so that your days and the days of your children may

be many in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.

You want to know what to talk about when you sit around the dinner table? Talk about the ways and wonders of God – marvel together at Him. If someone doesn't like your conversation, they may not be welcome at your table.

Barbara – tell the story of what you said to your family after you left it all to follow Jesus

²² If you carefully observe all these commands I am giving you to follow—to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him and to hold fast to him— ²³ then the LORD will drive out all these nations before you, and you will dispossess nations larger and stronger than you. ²⁴ Every place where you set your foot will be yours:

Did you hear that? Read again. IF...then

²⁵ No one will be able to stand against you. The LORD your God, as he promised you, will put the terror and fear of you on the whole land, wherever you go.

²⁶ See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse— ²⁷ the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; ²⁸ the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.

I need to stop here and define “following other gods.” Other Gods is anything or anyone we hold precious to the point that God take a back seat. Anyone or anything that interferes with, distracts attention from, or holds us back in any way, from looking ONLY to the Lord. Family, friends, teachers, preachers or priests, pets – even our own kids -- sports teams, TV shows, food – you name it, it doesn't matter – whatever or whomever makes—that's what “other gods” means

Deuteronomy 13

⁶ If your very own brother, or your son or daughter, or the wife you love, or your closest friend secretly entices you, saying, “Let us go and worship other gods” (gods that neither you nor your ancestors have known, ⁷ gods of the peoples around you, whether near or far, from one end of the land to the other), ⁸ do not yield to them or listen to them. Show them no pity. Do not spare them or shield them. ⁹ You must certainly put them to death. Your hand must be the first in putting them to death, and then the hands of all the people. ¹⁰ Stone them to death, because they tried to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of

slavery. ¹¹ Then all Israel will hear and be afraid, and no one among you will do such an evil thing again.

Deuteronomy 18

⁹ When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there.

Deuteronomy 28 – is a list of the blessings of obedience and the curses of disobedience. I wasn't going to read it, but I have to, not because we are under the law—we know better than that—but because the principles of how God works...of what He honors and what He doesn't...are as alive and operative today as they were when Moses spoke the words in the hearing of the whole nation of Israel. For us in the Body of Christ, I believe the standard is actually higher, and so is the accountability, not because we face punishment, but because of the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ and the outpouring of God's Spirit on us...because He lives IN US and we live IN HIM...we represent the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit on the Earth right now.

How's that for a reality check?

Here's **Deuteronomy 28**:

Deuteronomy 30

¹¹ Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. ¹² It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?"¹³ Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" ¹⁴ No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

¹⁵ See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. ¹⁶For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, ¹⁸ I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

¹⁹ This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live ²⁰ and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Joshua 3

⁵ Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you."

...

¹⁴ So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. ¹⁵ Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, ¹⁶ the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷ The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

Joshua 24

¹⁴ "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

So, Father, I pray that all of us will say, as Joshua did, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

John 7:

³⁷ Now on the last, the great day of the festival, Jesus stood and cries, saying, "If anyone should be thirsting, let him come to Me and drink.

³⁸ He who is believing in Me, according as the scripture said, out of his bowels shall

gush rivers of living water."

39 Now this He said concerning the spirit which those believing in Him were about to get. For not as yet was holy spirit given, for Jesus is not as yet glorified.

40 Some of the throng, then, hearing these sayings, said that "This truly is the prophet!"

41 Others said, "This is the Christ!" Yet they said, "For not out of Galilee is the Christ coming!"

42 Did not the scripture say that out of the seed of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David was, comes the Christ?"

43 There came, then, to be a schism in the throng because of Him.

44 Yet some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one lays hands on Him.

45 The deputies, then, came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and they said to them, "Wherefore did you not lead him here?"

46 Now the deputies answered, "Never speaks a man thus!"

47 The Pharisees, then, answered them, "Not you also are deceived?"

48 Not any of the chiefs believes in him, or of the Pharisees.

49 But this throng that knows not the law is accursed."

50 Nicodemus is saying to them (who formerly came to Him, being one of them),

51 "No law of ours is judging a man, if ever it should not first be hearing from him and know what he is doing."

52 They answered and say to him, "Not you also are out of Galilee? Search and see that out of Galilee no prophet is roused."

53 [And they went each to his home.

Chapter 8

1 Yet Jesus went to the mount of Olives.

2 Now early He again came along into the sanctuary, and the entire people came to Him. And, being seated, He taught them.

3 Now the scribes and the Pharisees are leading a woman who has been overtaken in adultery, and, standing her in the midst,

4 they are saying to Him, "Teacher, this woman has been overtaken and detected committing adultery.

5 Now in the law, Moses directs us that such are to be stoned. You, then, what are you saying?"

6 Now this they said to try Him, that they may have something to accuse Him of. Now Jesus, stooping down, wrote down something with a finger in the earth.

7 Now as they persisted asking Him, He unbends and said to them, "Let the sinless one of you first cast a stone at her."

8 And, again stooping down, He wrote in the earth.

9 Now those hearing it came out one by one, beginning with the elders, to the last. And Jesus was left alone, the woman also being in the midst.

10 Now, unbending, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Does no one condemn you?"

11 Now she said, "No one, Lord!" Now Jesus said, "Neither am I condemning you. Go! From now on by no means any longer be sinning."]

12 Again, then, Jesus speaks to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world. He who is following Me should under no circumstances be walking in darkness, but will be having the light of life."