

CREATING GIANTS

By Don Krider

Psalm 122:1 "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord."

There are three things which will help you every day of your life if you get them into your mind and heart. You are in the world but you are not of it. I don't have to fool around with sorrow or all of the things that have bound me in my lifetime. I'm a new creature.

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.

I've come from the curse to the blessing. I've come from sick to heal. I've come from bound to deliver. I am now a child of God, a brand new creature, and I live in a brand new kingdom.

Col. 1:13 Who hath delivered from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son.

I'm a new creature in a new kingdom but this kingdom is not lawless; the government is upon His shoulder.

Is. 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

So now what I need to know is something about this kingdom. I need to know something about who I am in Christ. I need to know something about what He wants, what His desire is, and the way that He has dictated for me to walk. It's all found in those three verses above.

I'm a new creature. I've got to quit identifying with the world. I'm in it, not of it, but I have to live somewhere. Where do I live? I live in a new kingdom and that kingdom is not full of sorrow, it's not full of a lot of stuff that we associate with. It is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost (Romans 14:17). It also has laws that govern whether I walk in the blessing of God or whether I am just walking around in the mullygrubs.

I was fortunate enough not to go into the ministry when I was young. The Baptist Church told me I was too old to go to college and learn how to preach. I had a longing in my heart to proclaim the Gospel of Christ, and got filled with the Holy Ghost and called by God anyway.

On a trip to Brazil in 1967 the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart and called me into the ministry. I was in an airplane flying over Mexico back to the States, and I felt compassion in my heart for the people who were lost. I saw them down there in the darkness in the little lights in their homes, and I said, "Lord, somebody has to tell them about You." Don't ever say that unless you are willing to be the 'somebody'.

The Holy Spirit spoke to me just as clearly as I am speaking this message, and He said, "I want you to quit your job and go preach My gospel." I said, "Lord, you know that I tried to go to school to learn how to preach, but if You will teach me to preach, I will go preach Your gospel." The Holy Spirit said, "No, I will never teach you to preach but I will preach through you."

That satisfied me but I had one other request of God. I said, "Now Lord, You go tell my wife." He said, "No, I told you; you tell her." There are some things that God doesn't do. He's not going to witness for you. He's not going to get you up and make you do something; He wants you to do it. He wants us to become involved, but I found out that in this lifetime there are choices every day that I have to make. Just like everybody in the world, we have to make choices. We can choose to live in victory or we can choose to live in defeat.

Let's start with Num 13:33 and study about the giants we see.

***Num 13:33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.
(Num 14:1) And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night. (2) And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!***

What has happened is that the people of God have been brought out of bondage, they have been delivered, and they have been promised a beautiful land flowing with milk and honey. So, when they came to Jordan to go over and begin to possess this land, they picked out twelve spies to go out to look and see if the land is like God said it was. Isn't that where we are? We are always checking out God. You can quit that right now. If God said it, that settles it. I used to have a saying on my refrigerator that said, "God has said it, I believe it and that settles it." One day I was reading that and God said, "What are you reading?" I read it off to Him and He said, "Wrong! I said it and that settles it whether you believe it or not."

God wants us to be a people who are representatives of a righteous kingdom, a joyful kingdom, and a kingdom of peace. I can't be embroiled in strife and be at peace at the same time. Have you ever noticed that? You cannot be worrying about everything, full of anxiety, and represent God. Here is the problem right here, just exactly like these children of Israel. We came out of bondage like they did, found great deliverance like they did, and have the whole kingdom set before us; and we have gone nowhere. We kept listening to the reports of people who were failing. "Well, they couldn't do it -don't guess I could do it." You have more "can't do it" than you have "can do it." You have to have selective hearing; you need to hear by faith, you need to be encouraged, you need to be challenged.

Here come these twelve spies back. They have born the great fruit of that land. It took two men in the Valley of Eshcol to carry one cluster of grapes (Num 13:23). Their testimony is, "Yes it is a land of milk and honey," but look at this thirty-third verse: "and there we saw the giants." Don't we do this? "I don't care what God said, I know what I saw." "What did you see?" "Well, I saw giants."

There is one thing about a giant: it is either a giant of impossibility or a giant of opportunity. He doesn't change; it's you who changes. It's the way you look at that giant and the way you approach him. You have giants in your life who are real. There have been times when the giant has won and you never even fought him. You say, "I saw that, it's impossible. What can we do with so few? We don't have the money; we are not able."

I am going to tell you three things I found out about people in my lifetime, three things that are basic in almost every individual. They want to be somebody they are not, some way they are not, with something they don't have. That's the three categories that men and women fall into. But I am telling you, we need to

get into the "Christ" category where all things are possible to him who believes. He always causes us to triumph in Christ Jesus; not sometimes, not once in a while, but always causes us to triumph in Christ Jesus. He has made us more than conquerors. If we just say that, that's one thing, but if we begin to live it, that's where the victory is. As long as we are just saying it, we start debating it. "I don't feel like a conqueror." Who cares how you feel? It isn't how you feel; it's what God said. If you are building on your emotions and on your feelings, the giant is going to overcome you.

That is what they were building on. They were not building on the Word of God. They were forgetting that God said, "It's the land that I will give unto you. I will bring you into it and give it to you. It's a land where you shall eat of the fruit of their vine. It's a land that flows with milk and honey." "But the giants!" Well, you don't have victories without giants. What kind of campaign ribbons do you want when this thing is over with? We talk about being eagle saints, just rising up and really flying; but when it comes down to it, we have chicken blood in those mighty veins that we are supposed to be soaring through the clouds on. You find yourself down there with the chickens pecking out a little existence; every now and then finding a nugget of truth, and saying, "Glory to God! It's been a long time since I had victory but I have some now." But I am telling you that there is a place to live in Christ where every day is victory.

I am not telling you something that my wife and I have not experienced. What I am telling you is what we have lived. We have had giants in our life and some of them defeated us before we learned this one simple factor: it's up to me. It's up to each one of us individually. It isn't up to the Pastor. He can tell me, he can preach it, he can teach it, he can challenge me; but I can go home and I can start worrying about the giants. This is what they did. They saw the promise of God was true, they saw that it was really a land that flowed with milk and honey, it was a land to be greatly desired, but they saw the giants.

What holds us back from inheriting all that God wants us to have? One of those giants is, "What will people think?" I want to clarify that for you because there are not a whole lot of people thinking about you, believe it or not. Probably there is nobody staying up at night worrying about you being out late. You're not the priority on their mind, so why worry about what people think when you can take solace in what God knows. The giants have defeated us, but not because they are so big and strong, and well organized. They have defeated us because we have defeated ourselves. ***"We are taken snare by the words of our own mouth"*** (Prov. 6:2).

"We saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants, and we were in our own sight..." If you are looking at things through your own sight, you are never going to do anything for God. You are never going to move into the realm of the spirit as long as you look at everything in the natural, because everything in the natural looks impossible.

If you sit around with enough natural people, they will help you believe that. But we are not a natural people; we are a spiritual people. We have been delivered out of the power of darkness. We don't have to think like that anymore; we can think with the mind of Christ because we have the "mind of Christ" (Phil 2:5). What hinders us? It isn't what hinders my next-door neighbor; it isn't what hinders my wife. What is my problem? I need a little self-diagnosis, not condemnation. I need, sometimes, to examine myself, to see whether I be in the faith. The giants who will come into your life are real, but you have the power through Christ to overcome every giant in your life. You have to quit looking through your own sight. You have to see things the way God sees them.

"We were in our own sight as grasshoppers; and so we were in their sight." The giants did not say this, they assumed this. That's a terrible sin, the sin of assumption. We sing great songs, victorious songs, and thank

God they are true. We quote scripture like, "If God be for us who can be against us." Then all of a sudden we get a notice that we are going to get a raise in our taxes. Well, if you are not of this government, you are of a higher government. You have whipped that giant when you can give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and quit grumbling about it. When you can pay that bill with joy, when you can come to a place where you are at total peace, when you pay the bill and you have joy about paying it, then you have killed that giant.

I can't do that for you; you can't do it for me, but I can do it for myself. When my wife and I go to the grocery store, we get in a line and people are just beating up on the clerk, even though she just charged what is marked. Mumbling, complaining, grumbling, and griping, and pretty soon if you are not careful, it jumps on you. I tell Christians, "You are going to buy it anyhow; why not rejoice in it! Instead of buying one, buy two." We might as well face this thing head on and become real and say, "I know the giants are there but it doesn't make any difference. If God be for me who can be against me. Who is going to stop me from being victorious in this battle." So there is the report of the ten who have no faith at all that God means what He says. They are making a way for defeat, aren't they? Let's look at Num 14:6-9 and see the report of the two: Joshua and Caleb. They have heard and the others and have seen all that fear that has been brought into the people's hearts.

(Num 14:6 KJV) And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: (7) And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. (8) If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. (9) Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

He said, "***If the Lord delight in us...***" I know He delights in me because He paid a great price for me. He sent His son to die for me while I was yet dead in my sins and trespasses; so I know He delights in me. That is settled. We need to realize that. We need to realize that God delights in us. We are the apple of His eye; we are the bride of the coming King. But He wants us without spot, blemish or wrinkle. One of those spots is fear. How does fear come? It's a spirit isn't it? Timothy was told by Paul, "God hath not given us a spirit of fear..." That is one you get by yourself. If you have fear, you did not get it from God.

Now there is a righteous fear. It's the fear of God that the church needs to come back to. That's the beginning of wisdom, but the fear that stops us, the fear that makes us hide out spiritually, not get involved with other people because we are going to get hurt, this kind of fear is not of God. Have you ever had it happen to you, or somebody you know, "Bless God, I'm not going to help them anymore! That's the last time I am going to ever put it on the line for anybody. I remember what happened to me!" That giant had you whipped. With Christ you risk it all, day by day - you put it on the line.

"The Lord delights in us and He will bring us into this land." He will bring us in! It's a gift isn't it? You didn't birth yourself into the Kingdom of God. You were transferred, you were translated, you were brought into that Kingdom by the Holy Spirit. You are people of the Kingdom. Somebody said, "Kingdom of God, Kingdom of God...what is that." The very first thing Jesus ever told them to preach was the Kingdom of God; to heal the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and cast out devils. He said, "Go preach the Kingdom of God." Why? Because you are people of that Kingdom and we have gotten so familiar with the world and the things of the world that every time the world does something it brings fear in our heart. But we need to realize that we are only passing through; we are on our way home. We are not home yet; we are

strangers, pilgrims, and sojourners as Peter said. But I want to tell you something: we are on our way home.

The world needs to see a people who are on their way home; not putting down roots so deep here that they can't be moved when God calls. This is what they had done. Through fear they had learned to live in bondage. You can do that! You can get used to bondage because that is one thing the natural man kind of has a tendency to go towards. Look at our own nation today; everybody wants a handout and they get mad when you take it away from them. Why? Because they are doing exactly what the children of Israel did, they got comfortable living in the wilderness. They got comfortable on handouts.

The rise to a new challenge means that we are going to have to fight. It means that we are going to have to get involved. We are not going out and pick up manna now. We are not going to go out and eat quail now. We are not going to see the rock just bring water forth. He said, "We are going to have to get involved in this thing." God is not looking for a bunch of retirees. God is looking for somebody who will say, "Here am I, Lord, send me." I don't care whether you are old or whether you are young, fat, short, skinny, ugly, pretty; it doesn't make any difference. It's a vessel through which the Holy Spirit can flow.

Joshua and Caleb were trying to build faith in these peoples' hearts, reminding them that God will bring them into this land and give it to them. Not only was He going to bring them in but He was going to give it to them. This is what God wants to do. It belongs to you; He's already given it to you. He's given you everything that relates to life and godliness through Christ Jesus. He's blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places. But our giants are there.

"If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. Only rebel not ye against the LORD..." There are only two ways you can be: either obedient or disobedient. If I could change a word in the American believer vocabulary, it would be this one word "can't" to "won't". Now "can't" sounds acceptable doesn't it? "I can't do it." We all have said that. God said, "That's rebellious." The Lord spoke to my heart and said, "Tell me you won't do it." I said, "Oh no, that sounds bad." Doesn't "won't" sound a little bad? Doesn't it sound a little rebellious? "Can't" sounds acceptable doesn't it? So we deal with God on this assumption: we can't do it when we are really saying to God that we won't do it. Somebody says, "Come to church." "I can't go to church." Yes you could but you stayed home that night and watched television.

See, it's your decisions that bring giants into your life that you can't handle. It's decisions that you make that cause you to either win or lose the victory. So here Joshua and Caleb said, "Listen, don't rebel against God. He wants to give us something. He wants to bring it into our life and He wants to show it to us, but don't rebel against Him." Either you are obedient or rebellious; rebellion is a sin akin unto witchcraft (1 Sam 15:23). Nobody wants to mess around with witchcraft, but when you're rebellious it falls in the same category as witchcraft.

There are some things we have already made obligations to take care of and do, we have given our word, so it's impossible for us to do anything else that we might be asked to do. But many times we just say "can't" so we can get out of doing something. But when you start saying "I won't," all of a sudden it starts setting alarms in your head. This is rebellion.

Just look at this now: "Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land, for they are bread for us." There are many hungry Christians tonight all across the world. Everywhere we have been, there are Christians who are hungry simply because they will not do what God tells them to do. And then

they are looking for a better preacher all the time; or they are looking for a bigger church; or they are looking for some humongous, exciting thing to happen so they can finally start moving for God. No! It's simple; it's within your heart, it's within your mind whether or not you live in victory. You can't blame anyone else. God knows that we have all tried it but it doesn't work. So He is saying something here that we need to get hold of, "Don't be afraid of the people. The wealth of the heathen is laid up for the righteous." The wealth of the heathen He has reserved for them which are good in His sight (Prov. 13:22).

I love it when God causes somebody to give into my bosom. I am not talking about the Church. I was in a store awhile back, and I had a guy come up to me and give me a twenty-dollar bill. Right then I needed a twenty-dollar bill. The guy said, "I don't know why I am doing this. I just feel like I need to give this to you." I know I wasn't wearing a sign or had a cup out or anything. We are robbing ourselves of the mighty, exciting walk with God, where when we get up we don't know what is going to happen, it's going to be so exciting. But it's God's desire to take the wealth of the heathen and give it to you. It's God's plan to do that, but if I am afraid all the time fear keeps me from receiving the blessing of God. ***"As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he"*** (Prov. 23:7).

So here He goes on to say, "Don't be afraid of the people of the land. They are going to be your blessing, they are going to be your bread, they are going to be your substance." They should have been used to this by now because when they were in Egypt, they came out in great deliverance and they bankrupted the nation of Israel. They took the gold and the silver, and the pots and pans; there was hardly anything left in Egypt. Ever since that time Egypt has been about a third-rate nation. But God is saying to us, "Do you want to be a third-rate Christian, or do you want to be first-rate?" That's what God paid the price for you to be - first rate, enjoying it all the way. Notice this: "Don't be afraid, they are bread for us. Their defense is departed from them." I think this is one of the greatest keys in the Bible when talking about giants. "Their defense is departed from them." When you no longer fear a thing, it no longer has a hold on you. Fear is a terrible thing to have because it has a little companion that runs around with it; it's called torment.

(1 John 4:18 KJV) There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

No one is made perfect in fear. Perfect love casts our fear. If I am walking in perfect love, it means that I am going to be obedient. Not only are they going to be bread for us, but they are going to see their defense gone. When that fear is gone (that thing that we built them up, that thing in our own mind we made impossible for anything to ever happen in our life) their defense is gone. Fear is a terrible thing. Fear is a horrible thing. It's always popping up just about the time you get the victory. It says, "Be reasonable now; what will people say."

I used to make giants out of nothing. As a young pastor I went into this hospital to minister to a brother in the Lord who was sick. I am going in with all this faith, with my oil in my pocket, and I am ready. I am going to lay hands on him, pray the power of faith, and God is going to do a miracle. I am standing by the elevator waiting and all of a sudden this thought comes to me: what if it doesn't work? I thought about that a moment as I stepped on the elevator. About the time I got to the first floor I heard this: "What will people think about you?" I got to the next floor: "What is this going to look like on your ministry if it doesn't work?" I got off at the fifth floor, turned around and got back in and went down and out. I had just created the biggest giant that a man could create in five floors. I had to learn to fight that guy.

We need to have the mind of Christ. We need to know what the Word says about our situation. If God is for me, there is nobody who can be against me. If God is the one that I am working with and walking with, God will do the battle. **"It's not by power nor might, it's by My Spirit saith the Lord"** (Zech 4: 6). Delight in the Lord. The willing and obedient shall eat of the good of the land. Not just the guy who says, "I'm willing"; it's the guy who is willing and who is doing it. God said, "I'm going to turn them into bread for you and their defense is departed from them." Their defense was your fear. When your fear is gone, there is nothing impossible for you. You can't believe and have fear at the same time. **"All things are possible to him who believeth"** (Mark 9: 23).

You can build a giant in five floors; you can build a giant without getting on an elevator. That's why you need to keep your mind stayed upon the Lord. Isaiah 26:3 says, **"He keeps him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed upon the Lord, for he has trusted in the Lord."** Psalms 119:165 says, **"Great peace have they that love thy laws and nothing shall offend them."** Nothing shall move them. The only way we are going to have any faith, **"Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God"** (Romans 10:17).

Faith doesn't come by shouting; faith doesn't come by jumping up and down. I like to do all that, but that ought to be like victory after the battle is over, or just before I go to battle and shout the walls down. We are kept from victory, not because of poor preaching, not because of bad singing, not because somebody spoke bad about us, but because our mind is not stayed on the Lord. We don't have that perfect peace; therefore, fear comes in and begins to minister to us. It always works on the assumption that it's going to make us look bad. We don't care how it looks on the Pastor, but we don't want it looking bad on us. Do you have some giants in your life? Be honest! You can't deal with something until you realize that it is there.

Joshua and Caleb said, "Don't rebel against God. He delights in us. He's going to take us in and He is going to give it to us. Their defense is departed from them." See, Joshua wasn't afraid of them. Caleb wasn't afraid of them. They were ready to go in and they were ready to take the promised land of God. They were ready to go possess it. It is not always the majority who is right. If you are building your life on the majority being right, you are very seldom going to be in a position to build much of anything, because the majority goes by what it sees.

In our sight this is what it is like. We are going to build a church that will hold five thousand people. Somebody said, "Where are you going to get the money. Have you gone wild; are you crazy? Can't you be satisfied to sit right here?" I can be content here but never satisfied because there is more. There is more to this than just getting saved. There is more to this than just passing from death unto life. There is more to this than being a new creature. It's doing something with it. Others say, "Well, it can't be that simple. We have this big formula worked out." We need to get back to the simplicity of God's Word. He's our healer, He's our deliverer, He's our Savior, He's our provider. He provides everything I need. If I really believe that, why am I worried about anything?

The first sermon that Jesus really preaches and teaches is called the Sermon on the Mount. When you look at that, you find it really is the rules to the Kingdom of God; how to live victorious every day of your life. It's loving your enemies, it's forgiving those who trespass against you, it's turning the other cheek, it's being meek.

Joshua and Caleb represent the present Church. We don't have to be afraid, we don't have to fear, we don't have to care what people think about us. How would you like to have been inside the walls of Jericho on the day they marched around it for the final time and shouted? They were probably saying all kinds of

things about those nuts out there. "Look at that weird bunch, man." They were afraid of them though. The Bible says that the report had come and there was fear in their heart for them and they closed themselves up (Joshua chap. 6). That's like many Christians do. "I'll play it safe. I'll lock the gates and bar the doors, and I'll stay here until Jesus comes." All of a sudden the ground begins to shake and you hear somebody shouting the victory, and you are in a pile of rubble. "What happened, what happened?"

Sure, there are going to be giants. Do we have to fear them? Never! Instead of being a giant of impossibility, it becomes a giant of opportunity. Now let me say this to you: if you are going down to the grocery store to buy some bread, and there are two loaves of bread and one of them is a giant size and one is just a small loaf, but they both cost the same, which one are you going to buy. Yeah, even if you can't eat it all, you'll buy the giant size. O.K. A lot of Christians are small loaves or no loaves.

God said, "When you reach one victory, where that giant has been turned to a giant of opportunity, then you are going to taste and see that the Lord is really gracious. You are going to know what victory really is. You will never know what victory is until you go to war. You can't win a battle until you go to war." A man said to me, "Well, I am kind of in the rear echelon. I'm sitting in the back with the back troops." The truth is, he wasn't even on the battlefield or anywhere near it. The guy who is in the back in the echelon group is the guy who is supplying something to those in the front. He's involved, he's there, he's backing up the play; he's involved totally in that.

Here we find out where we really are in Christ. Am I allowing a giant that I have built to stop me? I can say, honestly, I did more than once. Mighty miracle workers we are. We can make a giant out of nothing. Every one of us can do it; but I would like to make a giant into an opportunity. I want to have the report that Joshua and Caleb had: "What are we afraid of? If God be for us, who can be against us? God is delighting in us; He's going to take us in. He's going to give us the land, and their wealth is going to be ours. We are going to possess this land; it flows with milk and honey." We are going to see the greatest move of God we have ever seen in our life. I am not going to stand around and wait for somebody else to make up their mind. I'm jumping into the move of God and I am going for God.

So here we see Joshua and Caleb - two out of twelve, and they have the right report. Now look at this: "Their defense had departed from them and the Lord is with us; fear them not." How many times did Jesus tell His disciples, "Be not afraid, fear not." It was a constant reminder from Him, wasn't it; troubled waters, bad winds, all kind of bad reports. He said, "***Don't let your heart be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in Me***" (John 14:1). Jesus was always bringing hope and always bringing faith; never would He bring fear into people's lives. When we start bringing fear into one another's lives, we have a problem: we are building a giant that maybe that individual can never get over. If we can't handle the giant that we have built, don't try to give it to somebody else. Let's ask God to give us faith to begin to tear down the stronghold. Give us the faith to begin to take that giant of impossibility and make him a giant of opportunity. God is real.

We are in for new victories, but we have to get out of this holding position. "Well, we are going to hold on, we are going to hang on, we are going to try to stick in there long enough." I want to tell you something: there is no victory in holding on. Victory is in possessing, victory is in taking, victory is in fighting the battle, victory is in going where the war is, not hiding out from it.

Eph 5:19 tells us to make melody in our hearts; singing spiritual songs and hymns unto the Lord. I come into the "joyful noise" category. Sometimes that can become a giant, too. We wonder how we sound to people. Who cares how you sound to people; it's how you sound to God. You can have the most beautiful

voice in the world and not sound good to God because God looks on the heart; or you can have a garbling voice that sings in the cracks all the time and it sounds beautiful to God because your heart is right.

I read a scripture one time and told my wife, "Honey, *many are the afflictions of the righteous but He doth deliver them out of them all*" (Psalm 34:19). But I think I got a little revelation on that - most of those are self-inflicted. Fear does not come from someone else; fear is a product of our own heart. That's why we can't be made perfect in fear. I would rather try and fail than never try at all because I know in the failing I have learned something: when I get up, I will know how to do it.

"The righteous, though they fall seven times yet they shall rise again" (Prov. 24:16). "Well, I don't want to take a chance." Life is built on chances; it's built on choices. You can play it safe all your life, and one day you will come before the judgment seat of Christ. All of a sudden I Cor. 3: 9-13 becomes a reality. What have I built? Wood, hay and stubble? He said, *"Every man's work shall be tried as by fire."*

We can say, "Well, I'm fighting a holding position here," or "I don't want to get involved. I got involved before and I got hurt. I don't want to take a chance. I don't want to this..." We try to justify feeling that we have the right to play it safe; not to get involved with anything. But one day it's all exposed.

One night I had a dream and the Lord and I were together in a beautiful place; it was all white and beautiful. I was thinking about the scriptures in 1 Cor. and I said to the Lord, "Lord, I would sure like to see some rewards." He never spoke to me, just kind of nodded and you could tell what He was thinking. All of a sudden here comes this beautiful white humongous semi-truck and trailer. I am looking at it, admiring it, and the Lord just kind of nods His head and the fire jumps up. I looked back and there was a wheelbarrow full of ashes. God said, "This is it." I said, "Lord, burn it all up now. I want to start over again."

As long as I have breath I can build something. As long as I have a day I can build something. He's going to talk to us, and it's either going to be "enter into the joy of the Lord, good and faithful servant" or "depart from Me, you workers of iniquity." I know I have to fight the good fight of faith; I know I have to lay hold of the promises of God; I know that I personally have to make decisions in my life, I cannot shove them off on somebody else. I cannot use the equation of fear as being greater than I am. I must face it and ask God to give me help, give me grace, and give me strength to stand my ground. Not to run, not to retreat, but to stand the ground and then pray, "God, let's move together against this enemy for You said it's not by might nor power but it is by Your Spirit."

Whatever you have need of, it's right here. It's in you. It's not some preacher doing some mystical thing to you. I love to lay hands on people and anoint them with oil, and I love to pray the prayer of faith with them; but there is coming a time when we are going to have to learn to get hold of God and release what we have inside of us. You are the temple of the Holy Ghost. He doesn't just come in you when you come into Church. He is with us all the time. He lives within us by His Spirit.

If we could ever learn to release the gifts that are in each one of us and begin to bring those things together, every giant in everybody's life would be taken care of. The body is complete when we come together. I don't care if it's two people, He said, *"I will be in the midst of them"* (Zeph. 3:17). It doesn't matter if it is one or two people or a thousand. He's no greater with a thousand than two who come into contact in agreement. We have to learn to understand what God's word says. It's not just getting saved and joining a church. No! It's realizing that I am a new creature. I have a purpose in my life and you do too. Your purpose may be much greater than the one God gave me, but I have to take the one God gave me. I can't

be worrying about your purpose. I can encourage you, I can pray for you, but I also need to be challenged by you.

I would like to pray for you, and stand in agreement with you that you can defeat the giants in your life. "Lord, we are Your people, handpicked by You. Daniel declares that they that know their God, they shall be strong; they shall do exploits. But Father, if we cannot handle the giants in our personal life we cannot help others. We first of all, must do combat with the enemy of fear and doubt, and stop looking at the things in the natural; but begin to see in the Spirit of God the things that you have already accomplished, that we might bring those things to pass in our life through faith. In Jesus' name these giants are going to be reversed. They are not going to be giants of impossibility, but they are going to be giants of opportunity. I thank You for that in the name of Jesus." Amen!