

## #2 THE DREAM.....

The following dream came to me in the middle of a seven-day fast (drinking water only), as I shut myself away to pray and wait and seek the Lord's will for my life. I was especially seeking Him concerning my function in the body of Christ and His ministry for me therein. The apostle Paul states in I Corinthians that we are placed in the body as He wills. This dream has some symbolism in it which I will explain.

*I observe a person standing on a large balcony. As I approach, I see that this person is the Lord Jesus, dressed in glowing white and holding in His hand a banner or sign on which words are written. The Lord is looking down on a multitude of people who walk past Him below the balcony. He lowers the sign for them to read, but they continue to walk on, not interested in what He is showing them. On the banner are warnings, and the Lord's expression is one of deep concern and care as He tries to get their attention.*

*In that moment I feel a strong desire to move toward the Lord to offer myself for His service. I appear to fly toward Him and, as I approach, an awesome fear and reverence sweep over me. Jesus turns His head to look directly in my face, and His eyes search intently. My desire to serve Him and His searching of my heart seem to last some period of time. Then, He extends His hand to me and I receive the banner from it. I proceed on, looking back at Jesus once more and finding myself saying to Him, "The Holy Spirit bless You."*

*Soon I am flying over many waters in which are more multitudes of people. I have the word-banner and am giving it to the people. Suddenly I notice a large serpent-like creature in the waters and begin to warn many to avoid the beast. Some would listen, but those who would not are destroyed by the serpent. I fly on until I approach the shore of a large body of water on which I see a beautiful, stately woman. She is in battle with the serpent and, as she wrestles the creature, I fly to her aid. The banner which I am carrying causes the serpent's head to be broken at the neck.*

The understanding of this dream began the moment I awakened. I had asked the Lord about my place in the body of Christ, and He had informed me that one of my ministries would be to impart the word of warning to others. This charge I would always have to some degree and would also include admonishing, rebuking and exhorting. Later He would reveal more. My response in the dream, "The Holy Spirit bless You", was a form of thanksgiving and praise offered to Him. The Holy Spirit always blesses and magnifies Christ. In the dream the total feeling of not being worthy to approach Him, yet wanting to serve Him, reveals the necessity of the Lord's coming down to meet us at a level where we can interact. It is through Him we are appointed and graced (empowered and made able) to accomplish that which we could not do otherwise.

The large body of water symbolizes the masses of mankind. My flying to the Lord to offer my service and my flying over the waters speaks of my being the Lord's messenger to the people. Most are headed for everlasting separation from God for not heeding His offer of grace and kindness to them. Yet He still sends us forth to warn of the consequences of sin and the judgment that shall follow one day. We must proclaim the whole Gospel--the love and the judgment. We must warn that sin and the devil are paths to death, everlasting spiritual death. Yes, we must be faithful to all of God's Word, not just that which we find pleasant. God does so love the world that He did give His Son, yet those who reject Him will find themselves His permanent enemies in the end.

We must not be discouraged because many do not respond to our witness of the Gospel. The masses as a whole may not do so. Why, if the masses at times rejected even the Son of God's words,

should we be so surprised if they hear us not? He gave the most perfect witness, yet many did not receive. Ours is to proclaim the Word and learn to live that Word. Leave all else with God. In the dream the woman is a symbol of the church, stately and beautiful to God. She wars with the great enemy of God and man, Satan. My approaching with the word and its breaking the serpent's power or head is the symbol of God's Word being the power that defeats that foe.

Satan hates the true believer, for the true believer has the power to overcome him. Mankind as a whole is no threat to Satan's power, but the true spiritual church is a real threat to his kingdom. We are given great weapons and powers from our Lord to pull down and subdue Satan's kingdom here on earth. Why, the gates of hell can not prevail against the spiritual church that is submitted to the Lord and empowered by Him. I do not mean any denominational church, but the real church, the body of true believers that submits to the lordship of Jesus Christ and keeps His words. Yes, that church is promised power over the devil. We can break the power of that foe as stated we shall do---by Christ's power. Look at Matthew 16:18:

“...I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”  
(KJV).