

## #32 THE DREAM.....

*I am flying and see a large rock at the base of a body of water. Circling the rock for further examination, I recognize it as the Rock of Gibraltar, that old fortress that separates Europe from Africa. Then I find myself moving under the surface of the strait there and being able to see in the waters. I look around and observe many sunken metal ships, hulks of steel that lie rusting at the bottom of the strait. Next I see several men in black rubber suits with blow torches cutting into these vessels to remove them from blocking the channel.*

This channel, only eight miles across, is a vital entry point connecting the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. The rock symbolizes to me our spiritual fortress and wall. We must be on guard from this fortress to thwart the enemy's attempts to gain entry into our ports. I am told that on the surface of the strait it appears the water from the sea is moving into the ocean, but in reality most of the real flow is moving from the cold ocean to the warm sea. As in spiritual matters all is not as it seems.

In our spiritual wars often small battles determine great victories. We must put up and maintain our spiritual fortress if we are to gain and keep our victories. Our minds are like this strait, narrow, but very vital to life. If our minds are captured, all else will give way soon. The sunken ships in the dream symbolize past battles and victories won. These ships are the enemy's ships that we sank as they sought to gain entry into our waters.

The men with the underwater torches signify the enemy. If their attempts to gain entry by surface maneuvers fail, then they will try another method. We must have our spiritual radar and sonar in working order and be ever watchful for our adversaries' different efforts to achieve an entrance. If the surface ships can not break through, the enemy will try to clear the channel below and use submarines or hidden tactics more subtle in nature. Let us give our enemies credit for these efforts; they are determined and persevering in their attempts to destroy our spiritual life.

It is often the unseen forces that wash the foundations from under a great house. Satan may not get the serious, faithful Christian to fall into sins of lust, greed and the like, but he may succeed in luring us away through sins of pride, unforgiveness, petty bitterness and self-importance. Remember, it is often the little foxes that spoil the vines. Why, a root of bitterness, a little unforgiveness hidden to all, and a spiritual pride cloaked in false humility have done wonders in destroying a person's usefulness in God's kingdom. Let us root up the smallest sins, as they often grow to be large trees that are not so easily removed. If we overcome them while they are small we will spare ourselves much needless suffering and correction from the Lord.