

#58 THE DREAM AND A SPOKEN WORD.....

This dream followed the one above, and is closely related.

I see a door which begins to open of its own accord. A shining bright light with many beams streams out. I hear this word spoken to me, "vouchsafe."

As I awaken, the Scripture from Acts 12:10 comes to mind:

"And when they (Peter and the angel) were past the first and second guard, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth into the city; which opened to them of its own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and straightway the angel departed from him."

The word "vouchsafe" was not a common word to me so I had to look for its meaning. It is an old English word that pertains to giving as a favor or guarantee. Thus the opening door was a guarantee to me in this dream, and in the weeks to follow the door did open. Now look at Revelation 3:7-8:

"...he that openeth and none shall shut, and that shutteth and none openeth: I know thy works (behold, I have set before thee a door opened, which none can shut), that thou hast a little power, and didst keep my word, and didst not deny my name."

When God gives us a promise He intends to keep it. We, too, sometimes find ourselves blocked with closed doors and iron gates (iron speaks of bondage). As the angel led Peter out of jail the iron gate opened of its own accord, or so it appeared. In reality the Lord pushed that door open! God will at the right time open doors for us and we must be ready to walk through them. His voice and light will come forth to enlighten our paths so that we can walk on in His leading. He will also shut doors for us so as not to confuse or perplex us. Sometimes though, like Peter, it is only as we are being led in His will and moving in the light that we have that He begins to open those doors.

Some doors are for us to open by prayer and the use of Christ's name and authority. Some doors are of the enemy's making, and we are to storm them and tear them down in the name and by the power of the Lord. Those doors, though, that are set to be opened in God's timing are like doors of a bank vault which will not open except to the correct combination at the right time. When that time comes, however, we must open that door or we may find it blocked later. Great wisdom and discernment are needed in this situation. Doors are opened by faith, perseverance and thanksgiving, but if a door is set to be opened at a different time and place, no amount of faith or pushing will open it.

As we walk in the Spirit and heed the Lord's word and desire He will let us know which doors to knock on, which doors to knock down and which doors we must simply wait for Him to open. The spiritual realm works by principles and laws, yet unless we are personally led by the Spirit we will not know God's timing and method for us to move and labor. Each of us must find God's plan and work for us and then allow Him to guide and teach us the method and manner He chooses.

Imitating the ways God leads others (as far as timing and method) may be a hindrance. No two members of His body are alike nor is their work. Only the Holy Spirit can guide each member, and each is to answer to the Head of the church for that work. We may work under other ministries and act as

helps and servants to them, but even that must come from the Spirit's guidance to us. Otherwise, people will be led astray by overly zealous leaders who think only they can hear from God.

Remember a shepherd leads, he does not drive---Christ our chief shepherd will not push or drag us. Beware of shepherds who try to tell you God's will for you when you have heard nothing from the Lord. His sheep hear His voice and will be guided by Him. Some are called to help other ministries. That is the ministry of helps in whatever manner it may come. Even in our ministry to others, it is as a servant of Jesus Christ foremost! Let us learn to listen to Him and we will find the right doors opening at the right time in our spiritual walk.