

#69 A SPOKEN WORD.....

The following word was given to me in my sleep. At first it made no sense, but later the understanding came to me.

This is the word spoken, "You rock the One who rocks the boat!"

We all know what it means to rock the boat. It means to shake things up or to disturb the status quo. A spiritual state of status quo could be complacency---a true counterfeit for spiritual contentment. Many just flow along with any and all winds of doctrine, often with the attitude that all is well and everyone else is doing it. They have little regard for the fact that the majority is usually wrong when it comes to spiritual matters.

Thus our boats at times need to be rocked to get our attention. The ministries of exhortation, teaching and preaching are good boat-rockers with their methods of reproof, rebuke, warning and admonishment. Even these ministries must have the Spirit of God motivating them to have true life and urgency in them. The soul tuned in to the Lord will welcome these rockings and often will see them coming and prepare for them. Unsuspecting or disinterested souls will find themselves in for a rude ride once God begins to shake things up. As in a boat when we see the waves coming we brace ourselves and hold on for the ride. However, if the waves come, and we are not prepared for them, we may find ourselves soon overboard! Let us allow God to rock our boats and stir our nests as often as He sees fit and as often as we need it.

Another aspect of this rocking as revealed to me concerns the intercessor's ministry. We will see that in a sense we may rock the throne room of God. Take a look at Isaiah 62:6-7:

"I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth" (KJV).

Watchmen are prophets and intercessors. We as the spiritual body of Christ are a spiritual Jerusalem being built. Intercessors are persevering, persisting and continuous in their prayers and objectives. For this reason we ask, seek and knock. We come to the just Judge and the Friend at midnight! We are told to keep praying and not to faint.

Once while baby-sitting a friend's children, I awakened one morning and lay meditating with my eyes closed and body still. One of the children came into my room to awaken me. It was Saturday and the boy was hungry for breakfast. Normally the children had cereal on those days, but this child wanted eggs, bacon and toast. As I lay there he gently pushed my arm to wake me, pleading, "Please get up and fix me some breakfast." I responded by quietly lying still, hoping he would go and eat some cereal. Vain was my hope! After two or three times of this persistent nagging and pushing I finally told him I would get up "in a little while" (still secretly hoping). As I continued meditating this little badger soon returned, and I knew all efforts to stall or put him off would be useless. I would not be able to lie there in peace, so I arose and he got what he wanted.

Thus God is to us at times. He hears though He may appear not to. When we are hungry and desperate we will mean business in our spiritual pursuits. We are in a sense to give Him no rest in our intercession until we have obtained some sure promise of its answer or the answer itself. We may not be able to convict or stir up a complacent soul by only our words and deeds, yet by intercession before our

Lord He will send His Spirit to hound and badger the consciences of men. How many souls have come to God because of the dealings of His persevering Spirit! Men may shut us out bodily from their presence, yet God is not so easily shut out from the consciences of men.

Let us be the ones who will rock God by our determined attitude that we will keep rocking until He looks our way and we know we have His willing and smiling attention. If God seems to hide Himself from us at times (and it is not due to any fault on our part), then perhaps He is hiding in the desire that we will come and seek Him out.