

ARISE AND LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE FORTH

Greetings and welcome to Bible Study. It is the eighth Hebrew month and it is the day to cease the busy activity of the week and enjoy the Sabbath day rest and savor the word of God. The Jews have begun their goal of reading the Torah through each year. Reading the Torah/Bible through each year is a real opportunity for spiritual growth and building a closer relationship with God. As we obey and do what God says to do, we gain greater and deeper understanding of his great plan of salvation and become more like our Father.

Sharing letters received from brethren about what we are all going through as brethren in Christ can be very inspiring and encouraging to one another. We really need to care for our brothers and sisters and have outgoing love, compassion, and mercy and be kind to people. The hymn, *In the Garden* tells of walking and talking with Christ and the joy that it expressly brings to the individual who practices walking and talking with Christ. It brings to my mind that we are not to compare ourselves among ourselves. How can we know just how much joy another person may experience? David was dancing to the Lord in great joy as he brought the Ark of God up to Jerusalem. Joy was expressed with gladness, thanksgivings and singing with cymbals and stringed instruments and harps by Nehemiah, Ezra and the Jews who were returning to Jerusalem from Babylon and celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles. They expressed that the JOY of the Lord will be your strength. There is Divine strength in having *joy in the Lord*.

The **fruit of God's Spirit** is listed in **Galatians 5:22-23** —“the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control.” Joy is the second fruit listed here. We can have unmeasured joy in God's Spirit. There is not a monopoly limited to one. But all those who walk and talk with God who are of His Spirit have his joy—all of his children. We all can partake of that joy—unlimited and boundless without borders. **Psalms 43:1** —“Vindicate me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation; O, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man! ² For you are the God of my strength. Why do you cast me off? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? ³ Oh, send out your light and your truth! Let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your tabernacle. ⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and on the harp I will praise you, O God, my God.” God was David's exceeding joy, and God should be our exceeding joy. In verse 5—David asks, “Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall yet praise Him, the help of my countenance and my God.” This is a very strong witness of the joy of God that can be in us.

Letter—Report on the Feast of Tabernacles from Nick in England. “We are returned home from another wonderful Feast of Tabernacles. We were joined by a total of seven brethren and two dogs. Every hookup came in loud and clear. We particularly

appreciated the two days and three free evenings for fellowship and the six Bible studies during the feast with ample time to relax and fellowship in the sukkah. On each of the feast days we spent time in the sukkah and daily waved the lulavs. Then on the seventh day we beat the willows (a symbol of shedding all of our sins). All these things have become second nature to us now after doing them all these years. This is how it should be and it is fun. Thank you for the Bible messages and good balance of free time between services. Perhaps you will consider the same plan for next year.”

In past history for some of us, the Feast of Tabernacles was a tightly scheduled day for each day with two Bible studies each day, locating a restaurant for lunch, and participating in a scheduled evening activity. It was “go-go-go” with little time for Bible study, prayer, meditation and fellowship. I am also personally pleased to have a more relaxed schedule where we spent daily time in the sukkah, rejoiced waving lulavs each day, lunched together at noonday with wonderful, healthy meals where everyone contributed in providing and preparing the meals, and daily highlighted with Mike’s delicious raw vegetable salads. We included a special trip activity of interest to all with lunch at a German restaurant on the day we drove to Leavenworth. It is a small picturesque Bavarian Tyrolean Alps village nestled at the foot of the Cascade Mountains which was about 1 ½ hour drive south of Omak. This was the one meal that we ate out during the entire Feast. During this feast, we had adequate “one-on-one” time with God. No one went hungry or became ill, peace and unity of Spirit was present and I was happy to maintain the same weight as before the Feast.

When we first started building a sukkah in our own back yard and waving our lulavs it seemed strange, and others felt it was too Jewish. Those who had that attitude fell along the wayside and are not with us anymore. The rest of us have learned more and gained better understanding each year and God’s plan becomes even more meaningful and our enthusiasm and joy overflows. This is pleasing in God’s sight and doing what God says to do—praising Him and having a wonderful time of rejoicing. We do these things in faith. As we continue to obey, we have become deeply aware of how important it is to consistently obey God in the little things. During Bible study, I do wear a prayer shawl with fringes which is to remind me of God’s laws. If we are faithful in the little things, the big things take care of themselves.

Most of you have probably heard the story of the man who was asked on his 60th Wedding Anniversary what was the key to the successful longevity of his marriage. He answered he and his wife agreed that his wife would take care of all the small problems and that he would handle all the big problems. When asked, what was the biggest problem that ever came up, he replied: “We have never had a big problem. All the problems have been small ones.” Sometime the problem may not be big but it’s the little ones that can get under your skin, so it is important to learn to discuss things and understand where someone is coming from and what their real concern is.

Letter from Charles in Ohio—“I really wanted to attend the Feast in Omak this year, but it just didn’t work out. I have been to Omak when I was in my 20’s and then later, I attended the Feast in Omak about eight years ago in my 60’s. I guess I will not be able

to get back to Omak in the next 40 years. The average life span of man is 70 years and 80 if he has strength. Only by YHVH's grace will I be 80. The way the world is deteriorating, I think the grave may be the safest place awaiting Yeshua's return. If we are allowed to live and see Yeshua's return, it will be a great privilege. O how much Elohim cares for us. I have read your book and you did a bang-up job on it. I gave my copy of your previous book to a friend who believed the old WWCG philosophy that England was Ephraim and America was Manasseh. He thanked me for it and said that he will have to change his thought on the identity of Ephraim and Manasseh. He says it's hard to change old cherished ideas. I told him that as long as you have a willing heart, Elohim will not give up on him. But if we harden our hearts and are unwilling to prove the truth, then Satan can have us and harden our hearts so that we will not repent and change. I think that is where the U.S. is now—unwilling to change and repent of sin—the nation will follow Satan to destruction.”

Prisoner—writes about the troubles in America and says he wonders about the real motives of our government, especially about the risk and danger to our country from Ebola infected persons being allowed into the U. S. with lax prevention regulations and misinformation. He wishes America was wiser with foresight and vision and would consider where our nation is going. The personnel who are informing the people about Ebola are coming across as confused and unqualified. **Isaiah 3:4**—“Children shall be their princes and babes shall rule over them.” The current government Administration appears to be neglecting the weightier matters of the day. *Czars (male ruler having great power)* have been given the authority in our government to decide who should and should not be quarantined. We may not be able to change other people, but we can each change our selves. **Joel 2:32**—“And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the LORD has said, among the remnant whom the LORD calls.” If you call on the name of the Lord you can be saved. **Proverbs 28:1**—“The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.” **Matthew 5:16**—“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” We are called to be witnesses to this end-time generation.

Letter—Jim in Alabama—is letting his light shine by placing free ads in his weekly community flyer with the caption, “The trumpet is blowing”: lists a free article (title) or Bible question and then gives T.P.M. Omak address as well as the TPM Website. This week, it appropriately was about pagan days/Halloween or God's Holy Days and scriptural reference.

Letter – Norm in South Dakota—ordered 12 copies of my new book, *America and Great Britain in Heraldry and Prophecy* to give a copy to his local Bible study church group “to get the message out.” Others are donating copies of the book to local libraries. Think how you can help get the gospel out to others. The in-depth book on *The History, Meaning and Purpose of All God's Annual Holy Days* is almost completed and it will be a shocker to a lot of people and help to open their eyes and help them to understand and obey them. God says in **Exodus 12** and 14 his annual holy days are a statute forever.

How many churches keep God's weekly Sabbath and annual holy days today? How many Christians have even heard about the Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread? **Leviticus 23** lists the Feasts of the Lord and God declares these feasts are to be holy convocations –sacred assemblies in which no customary work is to be done, and "they shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations." If we want to please God, then we need to pay attention to his word. The Bible is accessible for everybody to read who desires. The Bible is available in the local Libraries, and on the *Internet* (Biblegateway.com). **Matthew 7:7**—"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds and to him who knocks, it will be opened."

Acts chapter 4 shows the attitude of the early church. The apostles, Peter and John filled with the Holy Spirit boldly spoke the word of God and preached to everyone and wherever they went they taught the people and preached Jesus Christ, his crucifixion and with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of Christ. They let their light shine and did not hide it. Even after Peter and John were whipped by the Pharisees and set free they went to their own companions and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. ²⁴ "When they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: 'Lord, you are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, ²⁵ who by the mouth of your servant David have said: "Why did the nations rage, and the people plot vain things? ²⁶ The kings of the earth took their stand and the rulers were gathered together against the LORD and against His Christ."²⁷ 'For truly against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your purpose determined before to be done. ²⁹ Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to your servants that with all boldness they may speak your word, ³⁰ by stretching out your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of your holy Servant Jesus.' "

Verse 31—"And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. ³² Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. ³³ And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, ³⁵ and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need."

Philippians 2:12—"Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. ¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the

word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.” We need to be single minded. We need to get the word of God out to the world with power, enthusiasm and dedication—fervor. Be zealous for the Lord. God’s Spirit is a Spirit of zeal. **Isaiah 9:7**—“the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”

Zechariah talks about the last days. **Zechariah 4:1**—“Now, the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me as a man who is wakened out of his sleep. ² And he said to me, ‘What do you see?’ So I said, ‘I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. ³ Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left.’ ⁴ So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, ‘What are these, my lord?’ ⁵ Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, ‘Do you not know what these are?’ And I said, ‘No, my lord.’ ⁶ So he said to me: This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: “Not by might nor by power, but **by My Spirit**,” says the Lord of hosts. ⁷ “Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! ‘And he shall bring forth the capstone (Christ) with shouts of ‘Grace, grace to it!’ ” That is how the work of the Lord is going to be done, by his Holy Spirit. The whole church of God needs to be anointed and filled with God’s Holy Spirit.

Verse 8—“Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying: ⁹ ‘The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple; his hands shall also finish it.’ Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. ¹⁰ For who has despised this day of small beginnings?” The Living Bible says: “For who has despised this day of small beginnings?” “For these seven rejoice to see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth.”

The things of God often start small. Christ told the multitude the parable of the mustard seed. **Matthew 13:31**—“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, ³² which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches.” We are not to despise something because it is small.

Revelation 3:7—“to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write,

‘These things says He who is holy, He who is true, He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens: your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for **you have a little strength**, have kept my word, and have not denied my name. ⁹ Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. ¹⁰ Because you have kept my command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹ Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. ¹² He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God. And I

will write on him my new name.¹³ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’ ”

The Greek word for little strength is “micro” which is an extremely small size put under a microscope and magnified to be seen. This word refers to the size of the “little” strength of the Philadelphia Church, but it can be magnified by God’s Holy Spirit. We are not to despise the day of small things. God says go forward through the doors that open that God provides.

We have had a great blessing this week. Our computer service provider was finally able to locate an area on our lot from which their new tower can be accessed for greater speed which we have really needed for streaming. By this Friday all the technical work was finished and we now have 6 to 8 times greater band-width power than we did have. It greatly improves the quality of the audio and video streaming. God made a way and now we are on the way of the path do even more in His service—more of His knowledge of truth and salvation. There are other ministers out there preaching the word of God and that is wonderful. Yet, how many of them have the prophetic insight and knowledge of God’s Law that he has allowed us to have at this time? How many understand and teach about the Holy Days, the Sukkah and the lulav? Many are starting to learn and do—that also is great. I’m glad that everyone can give and do what God has given them to do; however, they have a ways to go. We all need to be infused and filled with the Spirit of God. Pray for His work and for the doors of access to continue to open. We have been given the Spirit of love, power and a sound mind. God is going to fulfill and finish His work.

Colossians 1:9-14—“For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you and ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. That you may walk worth of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; with joy; ¹¹ strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy¹² giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.” We have been given a work as God’s servants to do and must exercise that grace given us by God to do his work to the finish. We are to be about our Father’s business, letting our light shine and be a witness.

Ephesians 3:4—Paul says, “by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), ⁵ which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: ⁶ that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, ⁷ of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. From the beginning of the ages, the fellowship of the mystery has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the

heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.”

Verses 14-21—“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might **through His Spirit in the inner man**, ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height — ¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

The time has come to get ready to bear witness and be a light. The days of Elijah have come. The Marine Corps at Camp Pendleton sings a rousing rendition of “The Days of Elijah”. These are some of the words. *These are the days of Elijah. The Lord is coming, riding on a cloud shining like the sun. Hear the words of the Lord, prepare ye the way of the Lord. Behold he is coming, riding on a cloud shining like the sun. When the trumpet blows, lift up your voices—Huyah! It’s the time of Jubilee! The Lord God is Jehovah!*

Isaiah 59:1—“Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. Your sins have separated you from your God.” Too many people are still compromising with sin – doing wrong things that separate them from the Spirit of God. Come out of this world. Bring every thought into subjection. **2 Corinthians 10:5 (KJV)**—“Casting down imaginations (arguments), and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”

God tells us to chose life (his commandments and statutes), not death. For example, “flee sexual immorality”— be like Joseph. When Potiphar’s insistent wife caught Joseph by his garment desiring to lie with him, he left his garment in her hand and ran. Iniquities destroy men spiritually. The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed for sexual immorality. If you want help, stop sinning. **1 John 3:4**—“Sin is the transgression of the law.” Write down all the places (things) where you are tempted and then what you can do to overcome each one. Fast and pray as necessary. People are tempted by lust of the flesh. One man said he was sitting in a restaurant alone where in walked this beautiful woman who came to his table, sat down and began to tell him how much she enjoyed sex—a complete stranger. He wound up getting up and walking away. He could have been a witness for righteousness if he had also chosen to rebuke her for her wickedness and let his light shine.

Isaiah 59:14 —“Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands afar off. For truth is fallen in the street and equity cannot enter in.” **Isaiah 60:1-5** —“Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. ² For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people. But the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. ³ The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see. They all gather together, they come to you. Your sons shall come

from afar, and your daughters shall be nursed at your side.⁵ Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy.”

Arise, shine! Pray for God’s work to be blest. Christ is returning quickly. He will be to you an everlasting light and your God your glory. Hallelujah! There is no God but Jehovah!