FAITH...PRAYER...INTERCESSION

You were that unique expression of light out of my darkness.

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His meat was <u>faith</u> as it is now mine; and bless him, he has taught me so much about <u>faith</u>.

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When I hear from you I always feel badly that I know so little of what God has taught you. I have reread a couple of your books this past month and am eager to be taught of the Spirit as you have been. I know you to be the only one who is a "father" to me, in the Lord. I am blessed that God has even let me know you. I respect you in every way possible.

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A man of God with wide horizons and great depth of insight

-full of Christ.

Rev. Armin Geswin

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Dear Mr. Culbreath:

Thank you for your letter. Concerning the prayer of faith for souls, I always look upon it that God gives us the authority of faith for those whom He particularly puts across our path and lays upon our heart.

I take it that when God does that, He knows who is prepared and He moves us with a spirit of prayer and faith for them. I also think yours is a good suggestion that prayer is God's means of weakening the power of Satan.

As to the words for expressing such a prayer, I always go freely by whatever God lays upon my heart. I will consider the general promises of Scripture enough when it is a person or people to whom God particularly directs my attention for prevailing prayer.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Norman Grubb

September 12, 1957

Dear Karen,

Praise God for the grand news of the flow of blessing, only remember that it passes on from blessing to Blesser! That is to say, there are times when God takes all feeling of "joy and praise" away at least from our exterior feelings, so that we are not walking by the highest forms of feeling (soul life), but by JESUS HIMSELF, as our joy, praise, and faith, no matter how He manifests Himself in our external circumstances (spirit life).

You ask some searching questions on Rees Howells. There are both types of prayer, what we might call responsible praying and co-operative praying. Responsible praying is intercession, for it means that God has so laid a thing on us that we know He is saying to us, "I will do it through you." That type of praying is the one prayer R.H. refers to, and it is accompanied by paying the price - whatever God may require of us in taking the place of those we pray for. It is when there is death that there is life, so intercession has a death in it, death to self that others might live. You don't make up that death, or think it out, but it is just something God gives in His own way, and not the least in our way, when He gives us an intercession. As the price is paid, the Spirit gives us the

authority to claim the answer, even as Jesus had authority to claim the coming of the Spirit on the basis of His intercessory death.

There is also the other type of praying, the quick shaft of prayer for this or that, maybe the daily remembrance of things and people God puts on our hearts. I call that co-operative praying; and in the least prayer there is some proportion of travail and identification. I agree with you about the value of prayer, or even more of the attitude of faith and love to pass us by.

That is a good saying of Mme. Guyon - from surrender to abandonment. Surrender is mainly passive, I giving myself and perhaps hoping that God won't take too much. Abandonment is active, we expecting God to take us and share His cross with us. You don't have to feel that to be willing - that is soul-life; you just have to recognize that our highest call is when God can pour Himself out through us, as He shares with us His Self-giving Life; then you accept that by faith and ask Him graciously to make you one upon whom He can put weight. He will do it. Don't look within to take your spiritual temperature; look at Him, and boldly reckon that He will identify you with Himself in loving and giving Himself for the world through you. It is a simple life. It is all He!



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September 11, 1958

Dear Phyllis:

I am so glad you have written, although you do present me with some tough nuts to crack! I had been hoping to hear from you, and wondering why I had not, and was actually on the point of writing to stir you up!

Thank you for your down to earth openness. You will never get through while you allow yourself to be controlled by yourself. Self is always a slave to one spirit or THE OTHER. You are bound to be hardened and bitter while you allow yourself to be governed by what you think and feel, because really that is giving yourself over to the hidden control of the evil spirit of unbelief, rebellion, hate of God, etc. There is no remedy for time or eternity except to bow our hearts and minds and take God at His word. That means that you step right over, in the obedience of faith, into the <u>fact</u> that you, as an independent self

with your own ideas and reactions, died on the Cross with Christ, and thus you no longer recognize or admit the mastery of the false satanic spirit over you; instead, you take the place by faith that you rose with Christ in His resurrection, and that means that Christ Himself, the Spirit of truth and love, lives in you, and is your real new Self within you.

There is no other way. In all life we are not sure first, and then believe afterwards. No, we believe first (and act as believing), and then we become sure. Hebrews 11.3, "By faith we understand...", not we understand and then have faith. You aren't sure of the chair you sit on until you first sit on it! So God demands of you and me that we bow our hearts and heads to His revealed Word, even when we feel we have reason to think that He has failed us. We simply obey Him, and we do that by taking Him at His Word, right against every feeling of rebellion. It is after we have stepped out in faith, accepted the fact that we in our independence have been crucified and buried with Christ, and now He lives and thinks His thoughts within us, that we find the assurance of faith within us.

So will you not do this again, even if you have done it many times previously? Just keep stating the facts of your position in Christ, and He in you, no matter how many times you are tempted to disbelieve it. As you persist, you will become established in faith. So don't be surprised at your feeling hard and bitter. Of course you do in your independent self, because independent self is always the dwelling place of the spirit of hardness and unbelief. The tenderness and faith in you will be as you recognize Him who is love actually lives His life in your committed self. Now let us go on battling this out together. If you can't follow or don't like what I have said, don't turn your back on me, but regard me as a brother in Christ, and don't keep me waiting a lot more weeks for an answer to this! It is just possible that deep inside you there is some point of resistance or rebellion, some undealt with sin that God has put His finger on, which keeps you fighting against Him. Are you conscious of this? If so, let Him deal with you on this, but if not, there is no need to be introspective, but just by grace to step out in obedience of faith as I have tried to describe it above.

My love to you.

Your brother in Christ,

October 20, 1958

Dear Mrs. Wilson:

Thank you for your letter, and for letting me know about your daughter. I am so glad that she is making steady progress. Please give her my loving greetings. We have got to learn to keep our eyes steadily on the Indwelling Christ as our physical life and health, even though we may be receiving benefit from this or that treatment. We do not live by the outward appearance or feelings of our bodies, but by the fact that the inward living and life-giving Spirit is within us. The same with the needs of our unconverted loved ones. We have rolled the burden of them onto Him and leave them with Him. We must not judge by appearances in their wanderings, but by faith boldly see them in Christ, held by Him and worked upon by Him, until the victory is visibly won. All these are means of teaching ourselves this wonderful walk and warfare of faith. So may God teach you these things, as well as us.

My warm greetings and thank you so much indeed for this gift enclosed, which I will put into the Lord's work.

Ever yours in Him,

Norman

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Nov. 20, 1958

My dear Brother Norris:

How good of you to write in your busy life.

Alas, it has come too late. I am up in Canada through next week, or I certainly should not have failed to contact you when Jack came through.

We fixed our meeting for the day before he flew, and had a grand three hours together, setting our doctrines right!

I am sure you have had a time of rich blessing here. This country is full of hungry people, because there are so many keenly evangelical and Bible churches where they give them the milk of the Word, but not the meat. I could spend the rest of my life taking the openings that come to minister on the life in the Spirit in the churches.

I think it is wonderful that the Lord has laid our children on you.

Mrs. Grubb was thrilled to read this. Probably God has used the prayers

He has prayed through you both in the children and in clarifying my
faith. Our two children here, thank God, are now really going on with

Him. We are thanking God for them both. ONE is still far away, but I see him clearly, with the eye of faith, as already captured by Christ, and I walk in that faith till it becomes fact. God has made that position of faith clearer to me quite recently, that's why I connect it with your prayer. Thank you indeed, and I have been able to help others on this point of faith for their children. My old friend, Clarence Foster, the Secretary of Keswick, was writing me today on this point, because he has difficulty to believe for his three boys, and I was passing this testimony to him.

Warmest regards to your wife and loving greetings to yourself.

Ever yours in Christ,

Norman

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January 24, 1961

Dear Mrs. Birney:

What a good surprise to get this long letter from you, especially when you tell me that you have a difficulty to see. I would never guess it from your writing.

I had wondered whether I should hear from you, because the American papers had in the news about Hedgson, and I commented at once to Mrs. Grubb that I thought this must be your brother-in-law. What a shock for you all, but I know you will all also praise the Lord for giving him this last highest honor of being a martyr for Jesus. He lived a wonderful outpoured life and then ends it with a martyr's crown. What an ending! One day we shall look back and see that he was more highly privileged than any of us — Phil. 2:17. C.T. Studd used to love and quote that verse in Lightfoot's translation — "I congratulate you and do you also congratulate me". It was always C.T.'s ambition to be taken to the Lord that way himself. So our praises overflow our shock and sorrow.

Yours in Christ.

Norman

February 7, 1961

My dear Suzanne:

I have you daily on my heart. God's wall of fire is around you and Satan will not be allowed to touch you through any of his agents; and at the same time, God's redeeming love flows through you to those who wrong or hate you, for they too are precious to Him as He died for them, and we say in faith that God is speaking to their hearts, including the woman who has been threatening you. I shall be glad to hear more of how you are proving the wonders of God's grace in this dark valley.

Will be writing again.

My love in Christ,

Norman

March 2, 1961

Dear Brother Adcox:

I have just returned from the South to find you letter awaiting me. I think the point is that we first boldly accept the fact of the union with Christ by faith. That means we are really one, as vine and branch are one or head and body.

Accepting this fact, we take it for granted that the Motivator constantly motivates us. Being our Vine, He is bound to be pouring the sap of His vigor and thoughts and life through us. Being the Head, He is bound to be setting the members in action. These are the disciplines you refer to — not actions we take except that, as we recognize Him joined to us by faith, He just causes us to speak and act (Phil. 2:13). When we consciously turn from Him, not merely tempted, but responding to temptation, then we sin and return to Him in admission of the sin; but then we immediately move over in faith to the Reality of the Cleansing Blood, where all the past is blotted out.

I will send you under separate cover a small pamphlet called "The Key" which goes into some of these things.

I wonder if you know my beloved friends the Woods. I would like you to know them. They truly love the Lord, and I am sure you would find living fellowship with them.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Norman Grubb

March 26.61

My dear Elaine,

I was very pleased to get this personal "inside" letter from you, and I am knocking this off personally to you. I always felt a bond in spirit with you and will always be glad if you regard me as a kind of "father" in Christ to whom you can so write from your heart.

It is precious that God is opening to you what He has been after in you. I have always been sure that God has a place for the rivers to flow thru you and your husband, and maybe each of you a "difference of administration but the same Spirit" in it. Intercession consists of distinct commission (standing in the gap); identification which means living for and dying for those for whom one has the commission; and authority in the realisation that the Ascended Christ is really fulfilling His intercessory High priesthood thru you, and what He does He completes in victory.

Write again and share with me what God is saying to you.

My love in Christ and to you,

ever yours in Him,



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Sept. 4.1965

My dear Leslie:

Finally, your leap, not into theology, but into faith! I greatly like your linking all of God's callings to Jesus to faith exercised by Him as a human. I never have had any doubt in my mind, and have often talked that way, that every phase of His affirmations of his Sonship, of Him being the fulfillment of God's Word through the prophets, of His death, resurrection and finally ascension, were all exactly the same leaps of faith as we make. It is only this that makes it thrilling and real to us, and still inspires us to follow along. I am impressed that in His last supper talk, John 14:17, he makes no reference to His resurrection. He was "through" on that. But all His thought is around the coming of the same Person into the disciples as was in Him. This is the product of the ascension, and the priesthood of Melchisedek. And He now fulfills this priesthood, not only in us, but by us to others. We share that priesthood

- that is Hebrews 11. But I also like your thought, quite original to me,

that it was Melch who taught faith to Abraham or at least in its deep implications. Good. Spread this quality of faith abroad.

Much love.

Ever yours,

Rubi

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Ft. Washington, Penna. 19034 September 8, 1965

My dear Brother:

Thank you ever so much for your letter. Your news had the appearance of being bad - but there is no bad news to faith. This is one way in which God's people in India are going to prove for themselves that they are strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man and to recognize their union with Christ, and many will witness a bold confession. So praise the Lord. God will be glorified through His church in India, and the gates of hell won't prevail against it; and a shining light will also appear from many hidden away in the more formal churches. God has never left Himself without His witnesses, as we are seeing in Rome itself these days.

But besides this, we stand straight against any such newspaper statements as you quote and God will not allow the Government to exclude His missionary servants. We will watch and see God blow on this attempt to close them all out, and He will preserve the way for His real witnesses to continue. This is our chance for faith and we take it.

Grand to hear of your constant witness in many places, and the blessing, and it was good to hear of you and Bro. Bakht Singh together. I am just starting out now for some weeks of touring in many places.

Warmly yours in Christ,

Norman

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October 2, 1967

Dear Gene:

Delighted to get yours. That I should think "too unkindly" of you "for the intensity of the convictions"! What an idea! I delighted to find someone with whom I could talk these things over, and I saw it

concerning you, exactly as you are now saying - that it is not a turning from faith but a seeking of its higher dimensions. We are surely going up the same path!

So when next we visit your area, I do hope that we can be together. I start a month's tour in the South tomorrow. Blessing on you both - and He is always blessing.

Ever yours,

Norman

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February 6, 1968

Dear Lanny:

Grand about the house. The only way of faith is to keep a single eye, and once one has believed, it is God at work, for we understand that our believing is really the faith of God, He thinking and speaking the word of faith by us.

Where there are apparent failures, such as with those two friends not coming back, still keep on believing ground - that God is doing what you asked Him to do and said He would do, though you can't at present see how that worked out. Just as Rees Howells gave a date for the end of the War which did not come off, but it was really God's way of setting the College aside to pray through the crisis battles one by one.

I don't personally date too much, unless I am pressed to do so. I just take for granted a thing will happen. It seems that mainly you have been disturbed by things not happening by the time you said in faith they would. Rather keep your eyes on the thing happening, such as that the porch will be completed.

Anyhow, it is good to talk these things over, and the great point is to let nothing interfere with our boldness of faith. There we stand square on Scripture grounds.

Love to you both.

Ever yours,

Norman

Jan.4.74

Dearest Sara,

I was just thrilled that you and Ellen could fit it in so that we really could have that lovely time and share together in the "secrets of the Spirit" - and there is no greater secret than that really nothing but God exists in the universe; and our temporary misuse of ourselves in our former fallen condition, and the distortions of our world as a consequence, are really only His merciful ways of pressing us out of our negative believings, by which we accept things in their outward appearance, and into the positive believings of seeing HIM only at the centre of all; and boldly using the authority of faith as His sons and daughters to bring into visibility what we need. How simple when all our part in it is to speak the word of faith - as Jesus and all the men of God in the Bible did!

Our dear Bessie is getting better, though there is still improvement needed. I have my precious Pauline in bed at present with ulcer trouble, but once again the Lord is the healer.

With my much love to you all. Did I give you this little leaflet. If so, forgive my repeating it.

Lovingly,

Norman

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May 19.75

My dear Ray,

I am so glad that you have written again and that occasionally you are moved to write and share like this. I am off this week for a three weeks tour in Florida, so will send you this line before I go.

I don't think we have to have a double vision on faith and works. I am to be occupied by faith which means committal to and consciousness of my inner union with God. But He is love-in-action by me, so that the conscious result of my conscious union is He moving out by me to unveil Himself to others. God works in me "to will and do..."

Phil.2:13, so He is the doer also; and my job is not to assess the amount of the fruit, but to keep being what I am, which is He in my human form; and expressing myself (which is Himself) in whatever ways He takes me in ministry and contact with others.

Equally it is not for me to "judge" how far others appear bound in a mechanical or legalistic setting, or oppose or criticize. I am to see God Only in all people, and He is causing them to be and react just as they are, whether negative or positive. Then I can accept them as they are, allow them to be or think as they are or do, and love them because they really are God in their human forms and maybe don't yet know it. Then I am free to be myself and go on sharing and giving what God gives me, whether they "hear or appear to forbear". If I judge another, I really judge and bind myself: I am seeing from my little helpless self-attitude. If I see God in another, when it may even appear it is more of the devil than God, then I am free to accept them and love them and just to give what God gives me.

As to whether opposition is the "obvious" sign moving you elsewhere, I would go steadily on, reaping the fruit where you are, and when God says, "Move", you will have no doubt.

Hold back nothing God makes real to you. Hide no light under a

bushel, whether folks can "take" what you say or not. You can only truly transmit what is first living truth to you, isn't that so.

So the Lord is taking you on His perfect way - He will fulfill in you John 7.37.38.

Ever with my love,

Norman

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July 24.77

Joan my dear,

I am so glad to hear again from you.

Yes, love, you must die out to the emotional soul-life (that's the meaning of Heb. 4.12), and it does take the form of apparent outer indifference to church-going in the old style (and thus lots of legalistic exhortations), also to praying prayers as of old, and reading the Bible as before. Now you are learning to BE. That is you and He in your eternal unity which is an eternal fact. There is a sense in which you don't "know" yourself, you just ARE Joan. In the same way you are now JOANGOD (hyphenated), and just BE. As you so truly say, you know beyond any outer forms you love the Lord and His Word and there's no other life for you. Precisely. And as you just affirm your love and don't try to examine, and still less condemn yourself, and wonder at not "feeling" Him, you will gradually settle into the kind of praying which is thinking things over with Him and speaking words of faith, and thoughts coming to you from the Scripture which are alive and not just outer reading.

Yes, you may sometimes feel it was nicer having more outer security in church, Bible, prayer, etc., but you will come into the permanent glory of the eternal union as you-He and live there. So you will keep going, darling, as He keeps His Own Self going as you and in you.

And we will hopefully look to being with you later. Yes, my son is about the same. It is GOD taking him HIS way - all is perfect, as with yours.

Lovingly, darling,

Norman

May 29.78

Dear Ray,

Many thanks for yours. It is good to keep sharing. I am now off on June 1 for England for those two months. No I'm not taking public meeting, - the first three weeks are our WEC Leaders Conference; so I'm not likely to see your brother. I will take his address.

Glad these "total truths" are settling into you. James tells us the negatives give us necessary background to "Patience having her perfect work!" which means being established!

The key is to build people by faith, not pull them down by unbelief. So keep seeing your folks as Christ in their forms, being formed in them as in Gal.4.19. See the discrepancies, "hypocrisies" etc as merely souldiversions from who they really are. And we have plenty of them too, so need to keep removing our beam before pointing to their motes! Faith builds up!

And our "seeming to escape" our resting place is precisely what you say - only seeming – soul bluff. See how the Hebrews writer used that word "seem" in 4.1 and 12.11 - being caught out by bluff.

So keep "walking in the Spirit" -walking in the flesh is not gross sin, but just negative believing - as if we are not Christ, but independent selves with our own reactions.

My much love to you,

Norman

Dear Marcus,

Thank you for your letter and I am so glad you have written. You are being taken by the Holy Spirit in you through your good and necessary education. Our rational faculties are a marvelous asset, but human reasoning can never prove a thing. Faith has to "leap" beyond reason, (though assisted en route by it), and attach itself to something outwardly "given". In this case the written word of God which I am so glad you search into in your morning QTs, is that outer given object. But faith means you have inwardly accepted what is outwardly presented as fact for you. And that fact is that the God of the Scriptures and the Jesus of history is inwardly The Eternal Person who permanently lives in you as you. You do get a "consciousness" of this, an inner "knowing" by the Spirit; but you do not even live by that (that "sense of His presence" you mention). No, you live by fact accepted by you as fact, and at times as now with you back in "confusion" and lack of "spiritual wisdom", with no reliance on your reasoning or feeling. This is this walk of faith - and your times of "confusion" etc. is the valuable means by which you keep practicing this walk by faith. You can never become "established" by any other way, because reason and feelings vary, but we live at our center where by faith He and I are joined (I Cor. 6.17); and as you do that, the inner "knowing" (the witness of the Spirit) does also settle into us in due course.

I wish it was possible for you to come and see me again!

With my love in Christ, He IS in you, the Real Self in your human self, whether you "know" it or not!

With my love in Christ,

Norman

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Dec.20.81

Sara dearest,

How lovely to get such a "Spring-filled" letter from you, for we always live "in the dew of our youth", don't we, in our Spirit-union with Him! I still rejoice in the special joy of you being with us at Albany, and specially Charlie. Am looking forward to the weekend again next May.

Yes, as you say, "all our fresh springs are in Him". What a difference when clouds have finally disappeared for good (though there is often the "appearance" of them, but that is bluff to faith!), and all is ALWAYS HE, within and without. I like Ps 2 when God laughs at opponents, while we humans fuss about them, and then He used negatives just to set His Son more firmly on our believing consciousness, and in fact we are "more than conquerors".

With my much love and joy,

Norman

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Dec.31.81

Dear Nick.

I am late in answering your good letter, as I'm only now back from a 2¼ months tour of visits and groups on the West Coast. Touches of the Spirit everywhere of course.

I see you talk of going to live "on the streets": but I must take it this Lubbock address will find you. Yes, I will hope to be with you next Fall. Yours is the address I will use to make contacts for Lubbock.

I think the Scriptures must not go beyond the "you ought" level except by many hints for those who can "see," and evidences in plenty of Bible lives, because the moving-in to experience where "you ought" has permanently become "you are" can only be by our faith-choice. It is then we who turn the "ifs" (If we walk...) into "since we are walking...". It is only by the Spirit's eyes that the whole Bible to us becomes a book of "YOU ARE and you read every exhortation as positive "Yes I Am."

And sanctification is a finished condition of our BEING, for HE is that to us - 1Cor. 1.30. This is where the acid test of the reality of the replaced life in us is seen; for when we know ourselves as He, we have moved right on from progressive sanctification (cutting out the word "progressive") to involved intercession. Thus, those who haven't crossed that Rubicon by the Spirit confuse Paul's "not that I have already attained or were already perfect" in Phil.3.12 with Paul's sanctification, which he had left far behind as a finished fact in his first phrase of 3.8; and his reversed absorbed attitude as intercessor begins by his last phrase of that verse; and thus all his perfecting is concerned with the completion of his "high calling" as intercessor. The same as Jesus who was All in his confirmation at His baptism, yet went on to say He

still had an unaccomplished baptism (Lu.12.50). So don't let those who think they have it all by outer Scripture confuse you and pull you back into those law-ways. No, all is now involved in intercession, including weaknesses.

Yes, spirit is <u>we</u> - Knowing (mind-set), loving, choosing (will). Soul is the reasoning faculty which seeks to interpret the Spirit mind-set, and of course emotions expressing the love-being. Most seem to have this mixed.

"Inner man" of Rom.7 of course is the only "real man" —spirit-man! So, glad to chat with you, and write again. I rather think I sent you this on "soul-spirit" but enclose in case not.

The Sept-Oct issue of Union Life Mag is a masterpiece on lambintercessors.

my love,

Norman

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Sept.18.82

My dear Marge,

Only after I had written you and Bus a line and closed the envelope did I note your comment on top of your letter on "WEC sharing" of needs. But I think I ought to "safeguard" even our precious WEC by saying that our faith basis, while it is an individual need, and not a general WEC one, is not by making the personal known, unless clearly guided, lest it really means that we haven't "got" the need already supplied by the faith which establishes us in the inner consciousness of having the "substance"; and the sharing with others is a kind of secondary means of supply! I think on the whole WEC has kept faithfully to this principle, certainly a 1000 times more than all the begging missions of all kinds with their "return" envelopes! I keep reminding WEC (and reminding myself) that I should never use the word "need" unless I am adding that my mention of it is only to underline the fact of the supply which I know to be there in the invisible and to become visible. Actually I am sure that is the word and expression of faith which God actually uses to draw supply into the visible, whereas expression of need, not swallowed by faith-supply, retards the drawing of the supply! You're an old Weccer and know this well.

So God is giving you the perfect basis to your wider sharing of Union Life in action by keeping you on the spot of apparently unsupplied need – and then the deliverance! And giving you also the sharing of the principle of intercession (which has been coming more to the fore just now again in our Louisville Weekend which was tremendous and glorious) in your "sufferings" by your daily job, and being wearied and "bored" in the soul-body, as part of your and Bus' intercessory "dyings" for your "union" ministry, and where folk see in you the glory which overflows the "suffering"! And it is interesting that actually in your own new Denver area Bus is already finding the harvest field. Give my love also to Darrell & Beth.

Just off next Sunday for England. Every indication in Louisville is that the Spirit's revelation by us is bursting out at the seams!

Love to you both

Norman

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Dec.25.82

Dearest Joy,

This is a "joy" letter from you. I haven't written before because I have only now returned from my three months tour, which included our good hour together. So I've had to delay letters.

But yours is good, especially of course about your Mike. I shall want now to hear how he is established in the Housing job. I love to hear how the Lord got him off the green chair and into all kinds of activity, and behind it lay that you had learned the secret of releasing him, and not "trying" to do God's job in His ways with him; and when you were able to convey to him that you had released him and were trusting the Spirit to operate in his life, the changes began, even though he may not yet clearly realize their Spirit-source!

Yes, I'm so glad, dearest, that you three did make your way over and we could have that good hour, and could share how all is PERFECT, no matter what appearances are, and indeed the dark spots are deliberately given us by God to make the light shine out brightly.

So keep writing, dear. I have marked down seeing you when I do come B'ham way next.

That was good also how clearly you "saw" that job was for Mike when you first saw it advertised. No, I don't hope the Spirit leaves you quiet!!! I love to see Him moving us into all kinds of love-action. All folks are so desperately hungry for what is now glorious truth to us, and the Lord gives you boldness among your fellow church-people, as occasion arises, because only bold witness confirms us in our "knowing" and is the Spirit speaking to others.

Loving you,

Norman

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Nov. 17.85

My dear Clarence:

Your letter, just received, means a tremendous amount to me, especially considering from whom it comes. I don't get a great deal of encouragement, not in any large way anyhow, in writing this kind of thing [Summit Living]. Yet I feel so deeply with what you say – that so much of the devotional reading does not go down to grass roots. And I find it tremendously in the evangelical churches here. Folks desperately hungry because they have been fed on the milk of the Gospel, but not on the meat of the deeper aspects of truth. They have a faith, but not an intelligent faith which has given them a foundation of understanding which cannot be shaken. Long ago I took to delving in the mystics, not finding what I wanted in modern devotional literature, with few exceptions. I drank deeply, particularly from that master of all of them, Jacob Boehme; then I had to go through years of sorting it all out and confirming it with Scripture. Now things begin to fit into place, and come clear and simple; indeed, I am already starting to jot down some more stuff, at least for something of brochure size, because a lot more clarification has come since the thing I sent you. I am deeply convinced, although it sounds awful to say so, that even our deeper life teachers are not really giving the clear foundations, and as a consequence they put many hearers into bondage, because their emphasis to exhort the believer to get on with his consecration, prayer life, witnessing, etc. (really an exhortation to a Romans 7 life!) rather than unveiling to him a Christ who is all, and will surely mould those who recognize Him in their allness in them, into the pattern of life He intends to live in them. But enough of this. Anyhow, you do encourage me, and I will send you anything else on this line that comes out. I find a great reception among these hungry folks, for it is possible to

put this Christ-centered truth in a way which does not tie one to this or that "school of thought" or antagonize them.

I fear we have had a worse heartbreak with our one boy than you with your three, and he is still – in the visible – far away from God. But I equally have it clear, with the eye of faith, that he is already in Christ, and I hold him there by faith when I can't see a sign in fact. We have handed him over to God and His grace, and do not regard him as our responsibility, beyond maintaining the continuous attitude of "calling the things that be not, as though they were". I take it that when God puts a direct need or challenge in my path, such as of course my own children are, then it is God saying to me that He has already supplied that need in the invisible and is requiring the human cooperation of my faith (His believing in me) to bring the invisible into the visible. I don't feel that I need to know more of the will of God than the fact that they are my children. I take God's will not to be something that I have got to discover outside of myself as it were, but because He is living His own life in me, the road I walk is His road, and therefore I take it for granted that He already has the answer in hand for all problems I meet on it.

I really think the C.U.M.B. letter gets better as the years go by; but I was amazed at the ministry God has given you among alcoholics, etc. I did not know God had lead you this way. I would have much to learn from you in such a ministry, and how much God must teach you about taking the sinners place in intercession to go through with it. That is wonderful.

My love to you, Clarence, and many thanks, so glad the gift to Alan was a good sum. It was a good idea of Godfrey's. Warm greetings to Dorothy.



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Nov.10.88

Dear Mary,

Good that you keep sharing. Once you see you never were "just you", but those fear-invasions to give you a clear insight into negative invasions, really from the spirit of error. Then what do you do with them? Struggle, fear, flight, desire to have touch with someone else were the old ways of escape. But NOW you are NOT MARY, but Christ

in His Mary form. Therefore the value of the negative fear attacks since you were a child are excellent background training for you now to know their negative pressures on you, on your soul-emotional reactions, and so now clearly, having come by the Spirit to know you are Christ in Mary, you do not fight nor regret these assaults thru the years, you rather ACCEPT and thank God for them as background negative training. Then as you don't 'fear' these things, nor 'struggle' to get release from them, you are now FREE TO RESPOND, AS YOU ALREADY ARE DOING, BY AFFIRMING who you fixedly ARE as Christ-Mary, and know those negatives were the Satan-bluffer, formerly in you, but now only invading from without, and you STAND in who you are (as in Eph. 6:10,11 and then 14 onwards.)

So my dear, take no further note of such assaults. Don't 'fear' or anticipate them, but see them as good practicing ground for settlement in your Christ-self; and therefore good background negative experience you can use to help many other fearful ones from their past. Light SWALLOWS up dark! But you first must have some dark to be swallowed up.

So my dear, you are now well learning from your own past now being swallowed by the present, to have valued experience for helping many others!

Keep always clarified in the FACT of you never being again "just yourself", though it may appear to be so, but ALWAYS HE AS YOU, and then the invasions of the negatives on soul and body are recognized as where they come from – not to be 'feared', but accepted as Satan-bluff and replaced and the special value as an intercessor in helping so many others torn up by invasions from their past.

So just this with love,

Lovingly,

Norman

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Mar.6.89

Dear Constance,

Deb gave me this loving gift from you. Thank you so much dear. The Lord is so aboundingly good and I am thankful.

I am so glad we had those hours together. (How great it is when the Spirit lights that light in us that HE is the Real One permanently in us as us, and we learn the precious walk by faith and not by sight.)

Thank you and with my love

Norman

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Nov.28.89

Dear Emily and Wesley,

You shew so much caring love in your letter. You go thru much, darling, as you always have. How well I remember you back to your beautiful youthful days when you launched out for Asia. Wesley has been privileged to have you, and you faithful to him, and your two girls. I often think of you in your neat little spot and glad I saw you there. Slowly slowly we learn that we must be put thru contrary things to produce "passion" in our faith against appearances, the vast vales of "suffering", and the 'curse' and snare of the established church is making faith seemingly so obvious and simple thru infant baptism etc. that thousands "think" they are "Christian" by an elementary so called faith-attachment; but living faith lives because it COSTS to believe, as Wesley with his long struggles with Xtian Science and you in the physical. My one physical "snag" at 93 is arthritis in one leg, so I 'crawl' around on a "walker" but mercifully very little pain, and still "all clear" north of the neck!

Thank you for the word on our Phyllis. Yes, she sent me her newsletter and special letter with it, about the time "in the depths", so I shared with her about that, and now her arising again! WE know there is a "River" which always inwardly flows beneath all outer conditions, because outer sufferings are soul-body, though real enough, where we have learned to walk in the Spirit. And it is good to get that word about your loved Robert, and give him my love.

Meanwhile, my WEC goes greatly right ahead, and are preparing for their three yearly Intercon with 140 leaders from worldwide for three weeks in Kilcreggan. Our present Internat Sec Dieter Kuhl of Germany is good, and is putting our Third Pillar – HOLINESS – as the main issue.

So I am writing them my grandfatherly letter as oldest living Weccer, with a MAGNIFICENT ARTICLE JUST COME FROM A PASTOR WHO with two others twice drove all night to have days of fellowship, and now

says he first "caught on" to the reality of No Independent Self thru me "in the 1970s", but has written this tremendous thing on Evangelical Humanism, that lie of self-effort, which I shall send around as they have plenty from me in my Rom. 6-8 pamphlets, Paul's Key to the Liberated Life, and the YES I AM, my last book, and brochure I wrote for that leading Nazarene pastor who said they weren't clear on the self life; so this will be another voice for our Weccers instead of "just Rubi"!

So with all my love as ever and so glad we keep our love touch with both of you.

Rubi

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Sept.21

Thank you, love, for your letter and poem, and all the love which always accompanies them. I am on tour and finding ever greater response, as I think we are able to put always more clearly this "exchanged" life. We go free now, able to accept ourselves and be ourselves because we know that He's "operating" us. So much of my old "prayer" life has been exchanged for a "recognising" of who we really are, Christ in our forms, and affirming those words of faith in Him in action in us by us, in all, rather than asking Him to be so! What a liberated and "sufficient" life, isn't it.

Glad, darling, of the good word on the girls, and that they hold in the Meth. Church as able to reach folk, though it so often means sitting under way out teaching from the pulpit, so much more law and self-effort, than our "enabled" life.

Love is the way and we love all as He does.

Lovingly

Norman

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June 8

Judy dearest,

Thank you for yours. Always glad to get them!

Prayer to me is the inner consultation with Him as me, and then as I see things or people to be, I move into the word of faith for what is God in that situation or person. Then having spoken it, I "see" it as fact, and my repeat "prayers" are repeat recognition as fact. The parable you refer to is in Luke 11:5-10. It means persistence that the sleeping friend has the supply and he is going to give it to me! What do I ask or 'pray' for? I just inwardly consider what I would really like to happen or be, then I move in with my word of faith based on "my desire" – Mk.11.24!

Loving you, darling and always glad to hear. We are really bound in heart!



May 22, 1990

Dear Ones,

I have unanswered letters from you back to last December, though while staying with loving friends.

God knows His own loved ways for each of us, and that has included no less than 95 years for me! Since my 18th year, I have been full speed on the pedal for Him and have so much to be thankful for. But I think my last years at that kind of speed are ended and it looks like "wheel chair" for me! Pauline and I had 62 years together since we first joined her father in what we then called "The Heart of Africa" in the Congo with the Azandi "human flesh-eaters" tribe in 1920. She has now slipped off to be with the Lord eight years ago, and my loved granddaughter, Sandy, helped by my own daughter Pris, have been our God-blessed family.

But now swift changes have come with my Sandy having to take severe treatment in chemotherapy to thankfully remove signs of cancer. At the same time my own legs (not my brain yet, thankfully!) have so given up that I think it means a wheelchair life for me. But what can I say when my whole life has been loaded with open doors of Christwitness in many lands! Even now, having truly a home away from home first with Tom and Page Prewitt, and now with old loved friends, Billy and Mimi Anderson. Don't we all learn that when "outer disaster" strikes, there is abundant Romans 8:28 awaiting round the corner! And this for me not a two weeks stay, but many months. Romans 8:28 is surely solid!

It gives me this chance of one more sharing in writing. I wanted to share how earthly hurtful frustrations and distresses are the very seedplot for surprising new ways of God for special further purposes. As with Jesus at the cross and Paul in prison, those living examples of Satan assaults are fitted back by our obedient faith into some unique opportunity. In fact, I have daringly illustrated this from my own 95 years in what will probably be my last earthly adieu, calling it "INTERCESSION IN ACTION."

My main purpose in doing this is to give us the constant practice in the meaning of trials as underlined by James in the first chapter of his epistle, and Paul in his first comments on his new birth (Romans 5). In my own case there have been six "could have been called crisis" which turned out to be life changing and Spirit planned career points. They left their plain traces in the riverflows that followed. I also like calling them "Obediences of the Spirit," the title Moses gave to that first great obedience of Abraham, our pioneer of Genesis 12:1. Always the cross was at the heart of these obediences and always there were costly launches of faith, but then always, sometimes years later, there was "the abundant fruit that remains."

So in this series of articles are the details of those "obediences of the Spirit." Each one was a challenge of faith by which some plain word of God headed up in a crisis of obedience. Then there followed in God's timetable a "there it is!" I start with my first youthful army obedience — a mark of the Spirit left with His C.O. (Christ's own) trademark on the battalion. Then the obediences of Cambridge days which have left their evident glorious Spirit mark on nothing less than the Inter-Varsity Fellowship world-wide. Then came the most permanent digging into my heart by the Spirit in my early days with C.T. Studd in the Congo, which put the most lasting birthmark of Galatians 2:20 on all my years of ministry right up to today. This was followed by the five years of translation of the New Testament and parts of the Old Testament into what we little dreamed would be the official (though doubtlessly largely improved) Bangala Bible Translation, for the whole of Zaire.

Then those years (how many, 35?) in the building up of the faith foundations of a total faith worldwide commission in the Worldwide Evangelization Crusade. We grew from one C.T. Studd to the 2000 fulltimers in WEC-CLC in 50 fields today! The book publications with the lives of C.T. Studd and Rees Howells followed, with both books still best-sellers. In the foreground have been some WEC biographies, and then the outreach of another dozen or so books – reaching out with the

fullness of God revealed in scripture, most recently with WHO AM I? and YES I AM.

I have recently sought to share this fullness in detail in the pamphlet, "NO INDEPENDENT SELF" and the brochure "IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THIS." Then great light came on Paul's Roman 6-8 which I give in "PAUL'S KEY TO THE LIBERATED LIFE: ROMANS 6-8." I am finally so gratefully thankful that I can lay down my pen or typewriter, YES I AM being my final book – not simply because of the exhaustion, but also because the Spirit has gathered us together in increasing numbers and clarified conviction unto the end of our search! Though doubtless others will take up the pen to build upon it.

I know I am leaving with you our pearl of great price, so simply available to all by faith, and so totally completing.

With my love in our eternal bonds,



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Ap.19

My loved and caring Fred & Gloria,

Gladys has just sent me this wonderful loving caring gift from you and it always is a fresh love-touch from THE LOVER through my fellow-loves. Thank you so much, when it means that I can't be sharing with you in your home and with friends. But thank God what & Whom we have is always living.

I am stuck to my typewriter and have finished a thing on INTERCESSION-IN-ACTION, which I ask my Sandie to send to all my Weccers and loved friends after I've joined "the cloud of witnesses", shewing how ALL SITUATIONS are ALWAYS places of HIS intercessory work by us as Royal Priests, when we accept our situations, no matter how unpromising they may appear as HIS Commission, Cost, Completion, just as Paul turned the hopelessness of being Nero's prisoner in Rome to being "the <u>Prisoner OF THE LORD</u>", and out came his witness and fruit among Nero's soldiers and those Prison Epistles to us all. So it is wonderful to have the constant practice of seeing THRU the appearance to always being HE in our forms! So it has to be with me and you when I can't be with you, but the typewriter keeps me busy, and life is ALWAYS FRESH AND ADVENTUROUS WHEN SEEN BY OUR EYES OF FAITH.

So thank you dear ones for such love and such a help. ever lovingly,

Norman

May 8.

Winston Salem NC

My dear William,

Your letter has reached me here, and I can send a short line, but hoping to have "dialogue" with you in June. One thing I am sure of is that it is not more prayer that is needed, but more faith. Heb. 11 doesn't say "By prayer Abraham etc", and Jesus never urged the folk to pray, but to believe, and of course Mark 11.24 is key for us. There is much too much just "spreading needs before God", and much too little doing what God is challenging us with, identifying the specific need and then making our declarations of faith. In this, you are absolutely right that our old method of so-called morning meetings were first of strategy - what is God presenting us with? Then definition - what's the exact next step in achievement? And then with some Scripture inspiration from the men of faith, we go to declaration.

It was NOT prayer which was the genius of the Spirit in my day, but FAITH, around which all so-called prayer times centered.

Enough now and to be continued when we meet.

Much love,

Norman

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May 20.

My darling Daughter,

It is so long since I've heard from or had news of you, but you and I have a love-bond which no length of silence can ever disturb.

Love, I have a sense that the Lord took you thru a rougher rather than your normally glowing, flowing stream of love last year. I did not get a chance of talking with you or sharing which I would love to have; but I know, precious, how we can sometimes be hurt, like Jesus, in the house of our friends, and it is a real hurt: but if so, darling, He has given you the special privilege of practicing, as you so often have (and I need

plenty of practice at this too!), being hurt and really feeling it, and then replacing the temptation to see those who hurt me negatively which leaves me in bondage to my negative seeings, with seeing all our loved ones as they really only are - God's loving Self in their human forms and our total oneness, and not "seeing" the shadow which crossed us: and that is our freedom again to love and be loved. So go on being your Lover-self among us all, as you are to me, by "dying" to anything in any of our family which has come across to you as a self-shadow of the negative towards you. Boldly replace that in your "seeing" of them, by what you know is the reality of every member of our family, that they love you and you them. So don't let any shadow any may have cast on you remain as a shadow you cast on them.

My precious Pauline remains about the same, maybe physically somewhat weaker, but at rest sweetly as ever in the Lord and among us.

I just LOVE you, my darling, and please pass also a loving hug to your Jack.

Norman

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EXCERPTS

There are no limits to God.

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Faith inwardly KNOWS, because it is HIS knowing expressed as us, so there is not that burden or fear in going thru impossible conditions, but zest and anticipation. That's our special secret, isn't it.

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SOLDIER-INTERCESSORS (II Timothy 2: 2-7)

Finally I thought I would just remind you that we are all learning together that the topmost of our high calling is as intercessors, and the summit of our ministry is to know the biblical and spiritual reality of being an intercessor. A far cry from the normal concept of intercession being just intercessory prayer. The widespread book on the life of Rees Howells has opened many eyes to look for the right answer. I have written a pamphlet on INTERCESSION IN ACTION, giving the five main periods in my life when I knew the call of the Spirit to be an intercessor.

That death-life principle of John 12:24 and II Corinthians 4:11-12, which really is by grace the summit of our knowing and being who we are, He the Intercessor Spirit in us (Rom.8:27) and how we can now illustrate and explain this to others as well as knowing it ourselves in our own lives the meaning of Paul's final Philippians 3 word "This one thing I do forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth to the things that are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus". Which was Paul the intercessor to the Gentiles.

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No dear, no journey is uphill. Only looks like that to negative believing. SEE that God <u>means</u> all that comes to you which might appear from Satan, then praise, rejoice and name what you want God to do!

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I have never seen, even with my ICL links, their using the big OT prayer about a people repenting and getting right, because that does not apply to an earthly kingdom, but the Israel who were the church on earth until Christ. It was a call to believers to repent, not an unsaved nation!

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We can claim Psalm 91 for ourselves and our houses. I remember I used to do this in the trenches in the last war, but felt a bit selfish about it, until I realised after all, the promises are open to all, therefore it's only our own fault if we don't make use of them!

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The vision and commission He gave me that the whole church is to hear who they really are by grace, some rejecting, many precious ones accepting, as in all history of the movings of the Spirit in His body.

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Once we are "caught", we are caught, and no stopping, and thank God there are increasing numbers of "caught ones" spread through this nation and on thru Britain. I see a million by faith, until that final day when "the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea"! And we have the great privilege of being pioneers.

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I know of Wurmbrand and everywhere I hear how greatly the Lord uses him. I would agree with you that the appeal to the government by

these Russian Christians does not further the cause of Christ but there are always those who will resort to the arm of the flesh when they don't know the power of The Other Arm.

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You won't like me nagging at you about mine on Intercession which you turned down as too egotistical. But the point which somehow must be made, and if you can't get it thru the Mag, we must try booklet form, as some are pressing. Maybe my epitaph!! You see the point is that most readers of Rees Howells are enthralled but go away saying, "Marvelous, but far beyond me". Now the truth the Spirit has impressed on me is that all born again are "Royal Priests", and I use my life to shew from that first moment when I gave up that girl for Jesus, the Spirit Of Intercession set me going full steam in the Brit army, and every incident in my life afterwards has been enlarged intercession. THIS IS NOT BEING SAID TO OUR PEOPLE. Of course it is egotistical. Was not Jesus? Was not Paul? But if there was a proper preface word, folks can be pointed to a real death in every intercession, and that is the point, and then the faith persistence till it is gained. So someone must get this out. You suggest another writer. But my experience after seven biographies, Fenton Hall, CT Studd, Alfred Buxton, Jack Harrison, Edith Moules, J.D. Drysdale, Abram Veriede, Rees Howells. In every case I have followed the line of giving their lives in their own quote, and every one has been a success except J.D. Drysdale, which I unfortunately named "Prophet of Holiness" and that frightened folks off. So I know by personal witness is the way.

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The great center of Rees Howells intercessions was the clearness of the commissions he received from the Holy Spirit of the particular intercession he was then called to, and the principle by which there was always clarity in what the particular intercession then was, and always the 'coming thru' to the point of "gaining" it, coupled with the law of the "the first fruits always going to the altar". The prayer part always headed up in the "gaining" of it. That comes out clearly in the incidents in his life story and most particularly in the great final one in World War II which has now such a world outcome in the vast spread of the gospel. So Rees Howells lived in great liberty of the Spirit. I was like a son to him, and he lived what he called a perfectly 'natural' life except when the Holy Spirit was on him in those "gaining" stages.

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I would like to make an unhesitating appeal to you to by no means to be moved from your calling. You are one of God's intercessors, set apart for the furtherance of the Gospel. Beware for Christ's sake and your own sake, from being turned away from this. God is allowing you to be tested in the fires. May the pure gold of the Spirit who goes through to the end, be found in you, not the dross of self pity or exasperation.

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Indeed, I feel, that the whole thing is once again God asking us to launch into the deep, "not knowing whither". It is again the old time stride forward of faith. To accept him will be pure faith, with many points still unresolved. God has always set His seal to our obediences of faith, despite our weaknesses and fears. So it is true that I am "pushing". But I don't push finally against God!

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So glad, my letter came at God's right moment - just after a "rough time": and every rough time is only to deepen the truth to me that nothing is rough except insofar as I see and accept it as rough in my inner believings. As a human I always have to start in this negative world by feeling the negative (the roughness): that's normal & right; but I am learning more quickly to replace my negative reactions of believing evil by seeing Him in His perfection meaning this situation to be, then I see Him only in and through it all, whether I can see the reason or not for the moment; and so I praise and the pressure is dissolved. That's our daily death & resurrection walk all thru life isn't it - it is Paul's 2 Cor.4.7-12.

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Let's keep stretching in faith, money's God's problem.

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On this "word of Faith"...The fact that it is a spoken word, is the guarantee that it is not a passing thought, but has therefore taken concrete form, and has as its background a true desire which comes from us (Mark 11:24), yet of course really issues from Him as us. Therefore it is not just a passing gust of feeling, and remains with us as something already done by God and seen inwardly as done by us, and we now watch Him for His manifestation. Isn't that about it?

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It is just a fact that the Lord means us to walk through all kinds of valleys of shadows, to establish us in seeing negative as only reverse side of The Positive. James, the most practical, starts his whole letter off with bang-bang-bang- trials, trials, as "all joy" for they establish us by faith-practice in our maturity where we've found the lot and need nothing, because HE in ALL IS ALL.

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But the principle is that we always start through soul or body negative feelings. JESUS was perfected as intercessor by "sufferings", and that was what perfectly suited God. See Heb.2.10 and indeed all Hebrews. So there are pains. The way never changes, does it. WE always start by "feeling" this or that and then, as quickly as we "see" it to be HIS way, we move to peace and faith. But 2 Cor.4:7-12 is the continual experience – for Paul said "Always bearing about...always delivered unto death"! So we will spend our lives passing through appearances of imperfection to actual perfection in the imperfection. No wonder Paul said that is "more than conqueror", because we are able to share that reality with others, and that is precisely why we are taken thru them, isn't it – intercessors "suffered being tempted" and thus "able also to succor those that are tempted".

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It is the Lord who is walking in her in this apparently strange path. He just forces us, doesn't He, to find out that nothing is really anything except Jesus only and Jesus is nothing but love, therefore He gives us plenty of perverse people as they appear to us to be, to expend His love upon through us. I know He is walking like this in and through her and Jesus only will be seen in her.

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I am glad you are going on with the Lord. It is a very simple life when the one fact has laid hold of our hearts, that Christ lives in us, as you say. Whatever situation we are in, we are then able to look away from it and recognise in faith that the Lord Himself has put us there, and is revealing Himself through us in it. He puts us in difficult places and with difficult people, just so that He can love them through us, and the faith that overcomes the world can be seen in us.

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That academic question about if HE wills and plans it anyhow, what point in our believing; the Spirit always means us to be cornered on a

reasoning level, to know truth and light are products of faith in action, not theories about it. He does just will and do, and we just also will & do! QED!

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God has led me along these positive lines, as you recognize, although you are quite mistaken linking me with such men as Blumhardt or R.H. They were in a class apart, and knew the guidance and authority of the Spirit as I don't. In my general life and ministry I certainly find this positive attitude of constant recognition of Christ is all things and people, and of affirming the certain fact of His working in all situations to be the effective way. We see its results in our fiercest WEC storms and needs. But at the same time I recognize that many in the Bible carried burdens and fought battles in the Spirit in a way that I don't. The danger of the positive way is spiritual lethargy, or passivity as you call it. But still I go on the way God leads me, perhaps because so many fight battles and take tensions which are really expressions of Romans 7, rather than Romans 8 life.

Don't be a nibbler of the possible, but a grabber of the Impossible!

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