

Times of Refreshing

Volume II Letter 1

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Dear Friends,

God has laid upon me the necessity of sharing with others what He has taught me over the years. I find myself faced with the accountability of "to whom God has given much, much shall be required." What God has given me is an understanding of the vision God has set before His people as we approach the final act in the end of this age. God is about to unveil a stunning and largely unexpected conclusion to this age of sin and I am convinced He has called you to be a part of it.

The presence and anointing of God in our lives is measured by the extent of our commitment. Not our commitment to a church or denomination, nor our commitment to a particular group or sect, leadership or doctrine. His presence in our lives is measured by our commitment to a vision. Central in that vision is Jesus and what He is doing in His people right now. The vision is more than "Jesus" per se. In other words, Jesus is not isolated, alone and separate, "up there somewhere." Jesus is very much alive, very much in His Church, and very much preparing something overwhelmingly extraordinary in the midst of those committed to His revelation, a work He is planning to unveil to the whole universe very soon.

I want you to understand fully what Jesus is doing so that you might be able to commit yourself more fully to it, as is, I know, your desire.

Understanding what Jesus is doing is no small thing, just like the Bible is no small book. The gospel, of course, is simple, "if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." But the revelation of Jesus Christ, who is the image of an infinite, all-

powerful, utterly creative God is not simple. More than that, our understanding has been so polluted by the world and by an in-part church, that it really takes some years of washing and battle before we are fully strong in this thing He is doing.

How much we give ourselves to that cleansing and fighting process determines how quickly God is able to accomplish His purpose in us. We must commit ourselves to begin that process at some point. Let's begin now!

We start with the premise that God is, in our day, doing something staggeringly awesome in the earth and that He is inviting us to be a part of it. Though we can and will see the truth of that premise from one end of the Bible to another, we will begin with three statements spoken by God.

"That you might be filled with all the fullness of God." Paul - Ephesians 3:19

"Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water." Jesus - John 7:38

"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb." A Loud Voice in Heaven - Revelation 12:11

[Look at the context of these verses very carefully in your Bible.]

We base our understanding of the Word of God on this premise, that every word God has spoken is absolute, that it must be fulfilled, and that it must be fulfilled in this age and in this earth, unless it is clearly stated that it will be fulfilled in some future time (i.e. "in the ages to come").

"So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,

But, it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for
which I sent it.” Isaiah 55:11

There is no changing this reality. God’s word will accomplish what it was sent to accomplish. It will not return to Him unfulfilled. The deciding factor for us is whether we will be a part of that fulfillment or whether we will allow His word to pass us by.

Look carefully at Ephesians 3:19. It is clear that being “filled with all the fullness of God” is not placed in some future dispensation, but is spoken of as an experience for God’s people now. Look carefully at John 7:38. It is clear that “out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water” is not placed in some future time, but is something experienced by those who presently “believe” in Jesus. Look carefully at Revelation 12:11. It is clear that overcoming the accuser is not placed in some future age, but is something God has planned for His people to experience now, especially as we approach the end of this age.

These incredible, beyond comprehension experiences are being fulfilled here, on this earth, at this end of the age. And they are being fulfilled without imperfection. Or is the word of God incomplete? Does it bring forth misshapen fruit? You will have to place yourself on one side or the other of this line at some point. How do you see what God has spoken? Is it certain or is it just sort of fuzzy? Must it be fulfilled in its entirety or is it limited by human experience?

The vision I will share with you is based entirely on the reality that God will do what He said, and that He will do exactly what He said, not only with completeness, but with great exuberance. And that His accomplishment of His word will come off, at the end of this age, with such power and glory as to “knock the socks” off of everyone around, which is to say, everyone in the universe.

If all we have are these three phrases **“filled with all the fullness of God,”** **“out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water,”** and **“they overcame him,”** then we would have enough to be a

part of God’s explosive finale if we would commit ourselves to them. But the entire Bible enlarges on the vision expressed in these three statements God made, and therefore we know that He wants us to understand fully what He is doing that we might commit ourselves to that vision in every way.

There is one evident point you will see if you look carefully at these three verses. God cannot fulfill them without us. God cannot fill you with all of His fullness without your being in on it. God cannot cause rivers of living water to flow out of your belly without your being involved. God cannot cause you to overcome all the works of the evil one without you overcoming all the works of the evil one.

This is the most stupendous revelation of all, that God has so crafted His word that it will not come back to Him fulfilled apart from us. To do this thing God is doing, He must have you. Isn’t God a risk-taker, to cause the integrity of His word to rest upon my willingness to “let it be to me according to Your word”? He is the greatest risk-taker in the universe because He is filled with faith, and because He knows the certainty of His word. After all, His Word, spoken by Him, is Jesus, and we know what Jesus can do to win our hearts.

So I am writing to you based on these three premises. One, God is doing something extraordinary in the earth that, in His heart, includes you and me. Two, God wants us to understand what He is doing and what our role in it is, otherwise He would not have given us such a large and complete Bible with every word penned to us critical to His work and certain to be fulfilled in this earth. And three, that all that God is doing is dependent, completely, on our commitment to it.

This is the critical point. Some Christians believe that whatever God might do to fulfill His word, He will do it automatically and instantly in every Christian without any need for full cooperation from them, or without any need for them to understand and commit themselves to it. This is a decision you will have to make for

yourself. Does the New Testament allow you to believe that if you are born again, then whatever God might do in His people, He will do it automatically in them no matter the level of their commitment. Or, on the other hand, does the New Testament make any attempt to persuade us that the level of the fulfillment of God's word in us rises to the level of our commitment to its fulfillment?

There was a time in my life, years ago, when I was faced with deciding for myself what I believed concerning this question. To me, at that time, the question was overwhelmingly urgent. I spent weeks, every minute of my spare time, carefully looking at every verse in the New Testament. I wrote down every verse that indicated that my commitment to what God is doing was involved heavily in the outcome of what God would do in me.

I had come out of the Christian realm that assumed that whatever God will do, He will do it automatically with no real need for my co-operation. That notion had been challenged, mightily, by a group of people who were living in as full of a commitment to what God is doing in the earth as they were able.

Amazingly, by the time I had finished writing down every verse in the New Testament in which God was attempting to convince me of the need for my co-operation and commitment, I had written out one-third of the New Testament. Needless to say, I went to the other side of this question from where I had once stood.

Please, this is too big of a deal for you to be sloppy about it. It really is critical to your life to know, "is my commitment to what God is doing essential to my being a part of it or not? And can I really commit myself to something I understand next to nothing about?"

If you feel comfortable with the first premise, the "automatic" one, then maybe these letters are not meant for you. But if you find God pressing you towards the second premise, the one about commitment, then I make this firm commitment to

you. I will share with you an understanding of what God is doing, right now in the earth, that He gives me, as He enables me to share it.

And though I speak in this way, I know your hearts, that your hunger and desire is for more of Jesus than what you presently know. And not more knowledge about Him, but more intimacy with Him that you might "know" Him in a way that is unbounded in His nature and not limited by yours.

Before I finish this letter, I would like you to briefly consider the three momentous statements of God that I quoted. You were created by God to contain Himself. Not a little taste of Him, but all of His fullness. God will not rest until you know what this means, absolutely. You were created to show God to all creation. Not just a poor shadow of God, nor to see just a trickle of God barely meeting the needs of others, but God plans to gush out of you in overwhelming rivers of life to bring life to all of His creation.

You better be careful of this God you propose to become intimate with. He is both dangerous and wildly exuberant. He will catch you up into His exuberance beyond your present capacity to contain if you would let Him. But though God is dangerous, and not one to trifle with, He is inestimably good and His goodness is towards you.

You also need to know that the third statement is based on the reality that you were born into a world at war. You have an enemy who hates you and who bombards you with every weapon of death and destruction at his disposal. You live in a world and walk in a church littered with the wreckage and the wounded of battle. But if you fight in His power, you will win. God assures us of total and absolute victory over all our enemies, if we will fight.

In my next letter, I want to talk about the role of the Holy Spirit in revealing to us what God is really saying in His word. If you would like to be on my permanent mailing list, then contact me. Let's take Him at His word — together.

Thirst

What do you want?

Are you satisfied with where life has brought you? I don't mean reasonably content, I mean fully satisfied in every way you presently experience life?

Some people avoid these questions. To some, they are too dangerous to look at.

Do you know that you know that you know that your present Christian experience is everything God has for your life? Or do you attend the church you do Sunday after Sunday because it feels **safe**?

These are not small questions. Our eternal destiny may well hang on what we do with them. We live in a nation that is choosing **safety instead of freedom** because freedom is too scary to think about. But they are seeking safety from a source other than God. And God, as we know, is anything but safe.

We attend churches that seek in every way to "play it safe."

Nothing radical.

Nothing out of bounds.

Nothing that will disturb the tranquility.

Nothing that will require more than a couple of hours a week.

Nothing that will make people late for Sunday dinner, or, God forbid, to miss the Sunday football games.

And then there is **Thirst**.

Thirst is a gift from God. Thirst – a deep, wordless cry for something more than you know.

But thirst is dangerous, very dangerous. Because of thirst, people have sold everything they owned and given it away. Because of thirst, people have

left their homes and families to follow Christ. Because of thirst, people have sat on backless benches through hours and days of preaching, soaking up the anointed word of God. Because of thirst, people have worshipped and sang and cast down their enemies for eight, twelve, sixteen hours at a stretch, until they were free. I know because I have been there.

Because of thirst, people have been thrown to lions, burned at the stake, and machine-gunned down in a hail of bullets.

They did these crazy things because they let some crazy preacher convince them that **the deep agonizing longing** stirred up by that question Jesus went around asking – "What do you want?" – was more important than life itself.

Then there are the safe ones. Those who will not allow dissatisfaction to be front and center in their lives. Those who take every one of the questions I asked at the beginning of this letter and keep them locked up around the outside of their lives. I trust you are not one of those.

We are at the end of the age. As God is bringing this whole age of sin to a stunning conclusion, He is offering to us, His people, the gift that we need, now!

Thirst.

Thirst that is not and cannot be satisfied with the lesser answers, the partial fixes that the safe church offers.

There are those who have known the mighty moving of God in the past. They may have at one time sold everything and followed Christ. That is all in the past.

Today, right now, a dividing line is **separating** the church of God, separating fellowships, separating moves of God. Not on the basis of right doctrine, not even on the basis of right living. **But on the basis of thirst.**

Will we settle for what we presently know, what we presently have under control, what is safe for us?

Or will we take a long, straight look deep into our **Hearts** and deal with what we find there?

Consider thirst!

“That you might be filled with all the fullness of God.” Paul - Ephesians 3:19

That’s not my experience!

“Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” Jesus - John 7:38

Not happening here!

“They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb.” A Loud Voice in Heaven - Revelations 12:11

Not where I go to church! They overcame who?

All the years I have walked with God a question has haunted me, pursued me, found me out every time I managed to build a “safe” place for myself.

Is God doing something in the earth and I am not a part of it?

To be honest with you, I can think of nothing more horrifying.

So my life is not filled with all the fullness of God, that does not mean that some group of people somewhere are not embracing the fullness of His presence.

So I don’t see rivers of living water flowing out of me to water the thirsty souls around me, that does not mean that somewhere some group of people are not witnessing rivers, not trickles, rivers of living water sweeping the landscape around them and flowing out of their own hearts.

So my fellowship is not triumphing over Satan in

every way, that does not mean that all other fellowships are therefore living in denied defeat as well.

But we know God will fulfill His word. There is no argument here. He will do what He says.

As God brings this age of sin to **His stunning, overwhelming conclusion,** people will be filled with all the fullness of God. People will experience rivers of living water flowing out of them. People will triumph over every work of darkness.

And when I stand before Him, I cannot say, “I did not know.”

*For He will say, “No, son, you did not **want!**”*

Safety was everything. Thirst was just too, well, dangerous.

But not for me!

To deny thirst is to deny God. I cannot think of anything scarier.

What do I want? I know exactly what I want.

When Jesus stands upon this earth, I want to be just like Him. I want Him to put His arm around my shoulder, turn to all the universe, and say, **“This is Daniel, he is with Me; he is one of Mine.”**

And I will trade everything I am in this world for that one moment that will last forever.

I believe that you want the very same thing. Will you accept the thirst from God that will take you there?

Every other voice will say, “No, stay safe.” Stay with your church. Stay under the leadership. Stay with what you know. Thirst is too risky. It will get you into trouble. It might even get you killed.

True.

I know this:

If I do not ask, it will not be given to me.

If I do not seek, I will not find.

If I do not knock, the door will not be opened to me.

“For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.” Matthew 7:8

Thirst is the thing that will make me ask and keep on asking, seek and keep on seeking, knock and keep on knocking – **Thirst!**

Jesus described a person who “played it safe,” who did not risk everything with what God had given him. But he also described two other people who took what they had and **risked it all** to gain more. (Matthew 25:14-30)

No, God is not safe, and “playing it safe” is the most dangerous thing a person can do.

I have so often seen myself as that servant who “played it safe.” God, let Your thirst never leave my heart until it is filled entirely with You.

And, after everything else, the question that remains is:

What do you want?

I believe your answer is the same as mine.

If you are not satisfied with your present experience with God and want to deal openly with this thing called **Thirst**, then write to:

The Fellowship of Jesus
16 Uvalde Road 202D
Houston, TX 77015.
Email: daniel@dyordy.com

Let’s find out together what else God is doing in the earth.

Sincerely,

Daniel Yordy

P.S. Jesus made this promise to the Apostle John: “I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely **to him who thirsts**. He who overcomes **shall inherit all things** and I will be his God and he shall be My son.” Revelation 21:6-7

Let’s take Him at His word – together.

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