

# THE WORD AND SPIRIT

WATCHING IN THE SPIRIT - EZEKIEL 33:7

Nov 2011

## HOW TO WIN THE WORLD TO JESUS

*Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. (James 5:7).*

This verse tells us that Jesus is waiting for the precious fruit of the earth. The precious fruit that He is referring to is people being born again. It is the desire of our Father God that all be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. That should be the primary goal of every church and Christian on planet earth. To reach an area, city, region, or nation with the help of the Holy Ghost we must follow the principles of God's Word. The closer we follow the Word of God, the more the Holy Ghost will aid us in our efforts.

### The Spiritual vs. The Natural

*Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain (Psalm 127:1). I am the vine,...for without me ye can do nothing (John 15:5).*

These verses imply that the church can do things with or without the Lord. Years ago one of my office staff, David, and I attended a church growth conference. I was disturbed and dismayed about what I heard. When we left, David asked me why I had not said anything to him about the conference as I normally would. The reason I did not say anything to him was because I did not want to talk disparagingly about the meeting.

The question was asked me over and over about what I thought. Finally I gave in and said, *"This is what I learned - According to this conference, you do not need God to build a church."* David immediately exclaimed, "I thought the very same thing, but didn't want to say anything to you. There was no mention of needing the Lord in building the church." David was very educated so I asked him why he thought that.

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Randall Jr., Randall, & Patti Grier

## HOW TO HAVE MORE MONEY

Kenneth E. Hagin once said, "Did you ever notice that you have more problems in the area of finances than in any other? The devil will fight you harder here because he has more leverage in this area. Money is in this world, and he is the god of this world." (See 2 Corinthians 4:4). You must use your faith, sow financial seed and command the devil to take his hands off of your money if you are going to prosper financially.

On September 11, 2001, the trade towers fell and the terrorist attacks took place in our nation. Our ministry lost 60% of our monthly support because of the fear that spread over the nation. That occurred October 2001. We had experienced short financial months before and always bounced back. I assumed that is what would happen again.

### Let My Money Go

I prayed and the Lord told me to get the mini book entitled, *"How God Taught Me About Prosperity"* by Kenneth E. Hagin, and read and meditate on it until I believed it enough to act on the revelation, in faith. I had read that mini book many times over the years and had put it into practice some. I had forgotten all about how the devil tries to keep money from coming to us. I had been sowing what I could and believing in my situation but I forgot to command the devil to loose my money and let it go. I knew the devil was defeated, and the devil knows he is defeated. I still had to exercise my authority over him in the name of Jesus for that fact to be a reality in my life and ministry.

I went and got a copy of the mini book and read through it several times. I began to study it and highlight different portions that seemed significant to me. Jesus, had spoken to Dad Hagin and told him the answer to his financial problems in this book. I knew those principles would work for me, if I would believe them and act upon them. I was looking forward, greatly, to having that financial pressure off of me!

(Continued page 3)



*(Win The World For Jesus, continued from page 1)*

David replied that he had been the president of several social organizations during the time he was in college. He said they used to have strategy planning sessions to find ways to get people to join their social clubs. The things he heard at the church growth conference were almost identical to those used to cause the social clubs to increase in number. He went on to say that he heard no mention of praying for the lost or for the Holy Spirit to be poured out.

David and I heard exactly the same thing, just from a different perspective. In our spirits, we both knew this was not God's way to build the church, but man's plans, opinions, and ideas. *Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it* is what the Bible says. Notice they did get it built, but without the Lord's approval. What is the scriptural way to win the world?

### **The Scriptural Way To Win The World**

A great revivalist once said, "It is no more supernatural for believers to have a revival than it is for farmers to reap a crop." He meant that the same principles for sowing and reaping a crop apply in both the natural and the spiritual realms. A harvest doesn't just happen for no reason, and it *doesn't happen overnight*. The farmer *prepares the ground* and then *plants the seed* in the ground, and *rain causes the crop to grow*. Finally, *the crops are ready to harvest*.

The Bible calls people who are ready to receive the gospel a spiritual harvest (Matt. 9:38). The Bible also gives us instructions on how to pull people out of the kingdom of darkness and get a harvest of souls for the Kingdom of light. In the natural realm, a crop is produced from seed. But before the seeds can be planted, the ground has to be prepared. Then in order to produce a harvest, after the seed is planted, it also has to be watered. The same is true in the spiritual realm.

Spiritually, we prepare the ground of people's hearts through scriptural prayer and sowing the incorruptible seed of God's Word (1 Peter 1:23). The Word has to be sown in people's hearts through the preaching of the Word, because it's the Word that brings light and illumination to men's hearts to set them free from the dominion of the devil (Ps. 119:130).

### **Charles Finney's Success**

The ministry of Charles Finney, the great revivalist, gives us insight into how to prepare the way for revival through prayer that is based firmly on the Word. Finney had revivals in city after city. Sometimes almost entire cities would get saved when he came and preached there. That's invading the kingdom of darkness! Most students of church history would agree that Finney had the greatest success at soul-winning of anyone since the Apostle Paul. We can learn from his success and grow the church. *(Continued)*

It's a historical fact that *eighty percent* of all Finney's converts remained faithful to God in their Christian walk. In most of the other great revivals in history, not even fifty percent of the converts continued to live for the Lord. When asked the secret to his success in the ministry, Finney simply said, "*The secret is prayer*. I always get up at four o'clock every morning and I pray from four o'clock to eight o'clock in the morning. I've had some experiences in prayer that indeed alarmed me. I found myself saying, 'Lord, You don't think we're not going to have revival here, do You!' And then I found myself *quoting scripture after scripture to the Lord*, reminding Him of His promises."

Finney also talked about a man named Father Nash who supported Finney in prayer. Sometimes Father Nash would go ahead of Finney to the next city where Finney would be preaching to prepare the way in prayer for revival. Father Nash would pray and intercede for days or weeks for the area.

### **What I Learned As A Convict Pastor In Prison**

We stumbled upon Rev. Finney's key to success while I was in prison. I pastored the convict church. We tried all kinds of ways to grow our church. We had ten people in attendance and half of them were backslid. We offered free coffee to all inmates who would come to church. We even had a few honey-buns we would give away. Convicts would come and stay as long as we gave them the coffee and free food, then quit coming. We would send out people to witness and invite them to church. We had singing contest and some of them could really sing! We would give away some sort of prize and they would pack our little church. We heard everything from Elvis songs to Fats Domino songs but very little about Jesus. It was so carnal and worldly that the Holy Ghost was embarrassed for us and probably said, "*Bless their darling hearts and stupid heads*."

We finally realized all our efforts were a complete failure and gave up on our ways. We called a meeting of the five faithful and discussed what we should do. Jimmy Joe, who was uneducated and had no front teeth finally said, "*Why don't we pray and ask God to help us, like you preach He will*." We all exclaimed, "Yes! That is the answer, God will help us! Imagine that! Christians having to be told to pray and ask for the help of the Lord. I want to give everyone Jimmy Joe's advice, "*Why don't you pray and ask God to help you grow your church?*"

We decided that we would pray and fast until we knew what the Lord wanted us to do. *It isn't wrong to do things to win people as long as the Lord Jesus is leading you to do those things.* *(Continued page 3)*



## Principles We Prayed From The Bible

*First*, we prayed in other tongues from three to six hours a day. *Second*, we prayed for the Lord to pour out His Spiritual Rain upon our prison, specifically. *Third*, we prayed that the Lord would send us out into the harvest of people in that prison, with an anointing to reach them. *Fourth*, we prayed for the harvest to come in. (See Romans 8:14, 26 - James 5:7 - Zechariah 10:1 - Matthew 9:37-38)

### The Glory Finally Fell

We prayed this way for several months, every, single day. Nothing seemed to be happening and it seemed we were wasting our time, praying and seeking God. My Lord and My God the Glory finally fell on us! On April 5, 1984, while praying as I had been for months, Heaven seemed to open above that prison! The anointing of God came on me and I was almost slain in the Spirit! The Lord said to me, "I am anointing you today for the ministry I have called you to." I began laughing and crying tears of joy as His power came upon me. I knew this was in answer to our prayers and that revival would start that day and it did!

The five of us were anointed and began winning people to Jesus that day! We cast evil spirits out of many who were possessed with them. Our church grew to over 75 in four days and to about 140 in five months. People came to us to be saved and it was easy to win them to Jesus. (end)

(More Money, continued from page 1)

### Four Main Points To Follow

There were four major points in the book that Jesus told Dad Hagin to do. Number one, was to *claim whatever it was that he wanted or needed*. I would like to add here, that you can't just wildly claim anything. You have to start where you are in faith. I know one friend of mine who started out claiming one dollar. Second, *command the devil to loose your money and let it go!* Third, say *go ministering spirits, and cause the money to come*. Number four, was every time you think of it from then on say *thank God it is working*. You are simply to stay in faith about it.

I began putting these truths to work for me and things began to change. Progressively things got better and better for us financially. I encourage you to sow financial seed and put these truths into practice in your life. You cannot expect a financial harvest unless you sow a financial seed. It takes faith to sow and reap and faith pleases God. (end)

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Sometimes, the Lord will have us to do something that will stretch our faith and cause us to grow. In the natural, sowing the aircraft was the last thing we should do to obtain another one. It was paid for and it would make a good down payment towards another one. It was also a way that it would take less faith and the Lord knew that. He said to me, "I want you to sow it and use your faith to obtain another aircraft, when I lead you too." Patti and I said lets obey the Lord and we did. Praise God His plan is working!

There have been times the Lord told us to sow our savings account. We did so, trembling, but with a heart filled with faith and the Lord blessed us abundantly. Get in on this miracle and be blessed abundantly. Sow \$1,000.00 or any amount and we will fill this chart and reach our goal. You might be the one to sow the seed to finish our financial goal and obtain this aircraft. **Only Believe!! Mark 9:23**

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