

JACKIE CAPORASO  
10552 SE 151ST STREET  
SUMMERFIELD FL 34491  
PH. 352-288-5257  
EMAIL- [jackiecaporaso@yahoo.com](mailto:jackiecaporaso@yahoo.com)

No. 195T

## I PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL

Jesus declared that the Father seeks to be worshiped in Spirit and in truth. This takes away any idea that we have of God as a Man sitting on a literal throne in a literal city in the sky. It also takes away the literal letter or interpretation of the Word. It takes our understanding of the realm of “spirit” to a new dimension.

The schools of this world have taught us the valuable information we use to earn a living and be able to buy the things we need to sustain our lives and the lives of our children. Some have learned better than others and have done well. However, when Paul wrote to the church he spoke of another kind of learning. He said, “*But you have not so learned Christ.*” (Eph.4: 20)

Paul was speaking of the walk that we embark on after we receive Jesus as our Savior. It is at that time that we enter a new school of learning, a new way of thinking and take on a new character. We no longer learn only the things that help us get along well in the world; we learn Christ. From that time forward, God begins to unfold the Christ that is within us, and from glory to glory, our change begins.

Paul wrote, “*If indeed you have heard Him and been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind.*” (Eph.4: 21-23).

## The Tabernacle

### *Our Journey to true Worship*

Paul brings our attention to the fact that we can and must hear from Him for only in Jesus do we find truth. It is when we hear Him that we are able to put off the old ways of thinking and doing, for they are all corrupt, and be made totally new in the spirit of our minds.

With this introduction, let us look at the tabernacle in the wilderness as the type of the true tabernacle not made with hands that God raised up and not man. We continue our walk through the Holy Place and see it as a new dimension that the Lord opened within our redeemed souls. It is the place that our Lord is preparing as His habitation through the Spirit. The Tabernacle can be interpreted in various ways, and each has its place, but it is as the Lord unfolds the Christ within that we see the Holy Place as the area which is our redeemed soul.

Previously, we have seen that our walk takes us from the “Outer Court,” where we began when we first came to Jesus, to the Holy Place, where we entered through the baptism in the Holy Spirit. In the Holy Place, we partake of His daily bread (the word that has been tested through the fire), and we are brought to the light of the Lampstand (the Spirit of revelation that comes to us through the Christ in us and in His many membered body).

Although, we move on to perfection in Christ, each level of our walk follows us and becomes part of who we are in Him. When we enter the door of “Pentecost,” we can remain in that place and enjoy

the gifts and the many joys of that realm, or as Paul, we may be stirred to keep moving on toward more. Paul states, *"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."* (Phil.3: 14)

Paul called himself an apostle of Jesus Christ, yet he knew that this calling was not the prize of the higher calling of God in Christ. He knew that he had to keep pressing on upward. It is one thing to be "saved" in the Outer Court and it is another thing to enter the Holy Place; Paul spoke of "attaining" to perfection. *"Not that I have already attained, or am already **perfected**; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus also laid hold of me."* (Phil.3: 12)

Paul knew that there was a purpose for him in Christ, and he knew that this purpose was not only the apostolic ministry that the Lord had laid upon him, there was a perfection that was available above that. Paul was not speaking this to babes in Christ, he was speaking to those who are mature, *"Therefore let us, as many as are **mature** have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you."* (Phil.3: 15)

There is a message for the babes and there is a message for the mature. It is important to know the difference because the babes will choke and lose heart if they try to understand the message to the mature. By the same token, the mature will lose ground if they are fed only with the milk of the word and not strong meat.

In the Outer Court, God dealt with our outward man and our obvious sins. When we enter the Holy Place, God deals with the sinful nature of our soul and our inward man. It is in that dimension that we begin to learn to worship Him in Spirit and in truth. It is there that we become His priesthood and learn to do service to Him only.

## THE GOLDEN ALTAR AND THE CROSS

Every piece of furniture in the Tabernacle has a very important function. When we approach the

Altar of Incense, we have already taken steps to attain to our perfection in Christ.

The sacrifice of the Golden Altar is not the same as the sacrifice of the Altar of Burnt Offerings. When we arrive at this place, the cross has already been at work daily within us, but now we meet up with the ultimate sacrifice. Now we realize that this is the Altar that carries us from the Holy Place into the Holy of Holies. This is the place of our transformation when the soul becomes totally one with the Spirit.

In the Old Testament, the Altar is set up before the veil, but the writer of the New Testament states, *"...and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, which had the Golden Altar of Incense and the Ark of the Covenant..."* (Heb.9: 3-4a). The way we enter the Holiest of All is by our sacrifice at the Golden Altar of Incense.

It is good to keep in mind that this sacrifice is not "required" of babes in Christ, neither is it required of those who prefer to remain in the "Pentecostal" realm at the Table of Shewbread. To be acceptable, this sacrifice must come from the heart and not from works. Many will turn away from this Altar, and even as Peter did to Jesus, they will try to lure those who are moving on, away from it.

Paul wrote, *"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."* (I Cor. 1: 18) Indeed the work of the cross begins in the Outer Court and keeps working all the way to our transformation in Christ; this is our complete salvation. At each level, there will be some who try to mock us and discourage us. When we first came to the Lord, there were many old chums from the world who tried to bring us back to our old ways. They mocked us for having become "religious."

When we entered the realm of Pentecost, our good old Christians friends who thought they were doing God a service, tried their best to talk us out of going on. Beloved, this never changes, only those who try to stop us change. Nevertheless, the cross keeps on working to accomplish God's purposes in us and in

the world.

When we first faced the cross of Jesus, it was for the forgiveness of sins. Then we took up His cross daily and denied our old “self” nature at every turn. But now the cross of Jesus reveals an even more powerful work in us. At this point we enter into the “fellowship of His sufferings. Paul wrote, *“That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformed to His death, if by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.”* (Phil 3: 10-11)

This is the time of our humiliation. In order to know Him as He is, we will find ourselves walking through this suffering with Him. God reveals Himself to the humble, but He resists the proud. Those who attach more importance to outward appearance and material things cannot find Him in spiritual things; they are sent away empty.

The message of salvation declares, *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”* (Eph.2: 8-9) These are also the words of Paul and they are true.

So why would Paul write that he wanted to be made conformed to His death in order to attain to the resurrection from the dead? Paul knew that he was saved and that it was certainly by the grace of God. But somehow, he also had another vision. He knew that being saved was wonderful and he was grateful for his salvation, but he wanted to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Is that resurrection not part of the salvation package?

Were we not taught that Jesus did it all, all to Him we owe? Jesus suffered for us so why would we desire to enter into His sufferings now? What are these sufferings? And what is the power of His resurrection? Are there levels of resurrection life? It is evident that Paul had great revelation power and indeed he had seen that there were degrees of resurrection life. He desired the same resurrection that Jesus attained to.

When Jesus ascended in resurrection life, He

became One with the Father. He had been One with the Father before in Spirit, but now He was ascending with a glorious body as well. It is in this glorious body of resurrection that Jesus became One again with the Father.

When He was here on earth, Jesus declared that the Father was within Him. But when Jesus ascended, He became one with the Father and was no longer seen. Jesus had declared, *“When you see Me, you see My Father.”* But in resurrection, you no longer see Jesus, you see only the Father.

This is because when Jesus ascended, He turned Himself over to the Father, that the Father might be all in all in Him. At that point, the Father took over the Son and the prayer of Jesus was answered, *“And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”* (Jn.17: 5)

Jesus came in the likeness or image of the Father, but now the Son and the Father are one. An image is a likeness or similitude. It can be a reflection or a representation, but it is not the true person. Now the Son is no longer the “image” of the Father, the Father and the Son are One. Not only are they one as before, in Spirit, but now they are One in the Spirit, soul and body of this new creation Man. Jesus and the Father are God all in all. When the Father fully indwells all of His creation, He will be all in all.

This is the complete work that the Son came to accomplish. *“For He has put all things under His feet... Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”* (I Cor.15: 27a, 28)

The Son has given the Father, a visible habitation so that the Father can be made known to His creation. When the Son and the sons are made manifest, no man will be able to declare that “there is no God.” The Father is all in all in Jesus now and the day is at hand when the Father will be all in all in the sons.

This is taking place in us today. When the sons can say, *"When you have seen me, you have seen the Father.."* they will present themselves as incense on the Golden Altar, and the Father will bring them into the Holy of Holies to take up His abode and be God all in all in them.

Jesus sent us His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not an entity or a Person that we do not know. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus Christ; He is Jesus Christ. Paul wrote, *"Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?- unless indeed your are disqualified."* (II Cor.13: 5b)

Jesus Christ in us is the One who makes it possible for us to become the image and likeness of the Son. Jesus is the One who leads us through the new Tabernacle not made with hands, and brings us all the way to His image.

In the verse we read earlier, Paul writes, *"when all things are made subject to Him..."* this means that there is a time when all things are not subject to Him. It is important to understand that this will only happen in God's time and according to His purpose.

The purpose of the Son in us at this time is to bring all things in subjection to Christ so that God may be all in all in us. After that, all things around us will also be made subject to the Christ. The word "things" does not appear in the Greek. The verse should read, *"When all are made subject to Him..."*

Paul declares, *"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. **But each one in his own order:** Christ the **firstfruits**, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming."* (I Cor.15: 22-23)

The time when God is all in all takes place at the end. Much needs to transpire in between. Christ must put all things under His feet, and destroy the last enemy which is death. The Christ in Jesus has already done the work in Himself, now the Christ in you, by the power of His Spirit, is doing the same. The work that began at Calvary continued when the first one-hundred-and-twenty received the Holy Ghost in the upper room. Now we are looking for

the next one hundred and forty four to reach the top of the mountain in the nature of the Lamb.

These are the ones who offer the acceptable **sacrifice in righteousness** to God. They are the priests that have been purified as gold and silver. *"For He (the Word) is like a refiner's fire and like fuller's soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi (priesthood) and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the Lord an offering in righteousness."* (Mal.3: 2b-3)

He sends His Word to us in many forms. It can be as the waters that gently cleanse and refresh our souls. It can be as a sword that cuts asunder the works of the flesh or it can be as the fire that burns away the works of man and purifies the priests as silver and gold.

Recently I had an experience where God sent a Word that was sorely needed in my life. As He often does, He revealed the nature of my battle in a dream. *"I dreamed that I was in my bedroom and on the floor in a corner I see this creature. It was about the size of a large bird. It had the very smooth feathered head of a dove and the body of a lizard. I cringed and I knew that I must call on the "Expert" to get this dangerous creature out."*

I had been having a problem with a certain person in my life. This evil creature in my bedroom described to a T the nature of my problem. It had entered my rest in the Spirit (bedroom) and now I was helpless to get it out. It had entered my thoughts continually and was tormenting me.

It was an evil spirit and it was smooth with a gentle appearance (head of a dove with smooth feathers). However it had the power (body) of a reptile (lizard). Like a snake, a lizard moves rapidly and slyly. This speaks of an evasive, crafty and underhanded spirit that had come to disturb and threaten my rest. The Lord was telling me that only the "Expert" could take this thing out of the way. I began to pray that God would send His "Expert" to me. I knew it would most likely come in the form of a word. And it did.

It was a couple of days later when a friend called and in the course of our conversation she reminded me of a Word that I had given to her a while back and how much that Word had meant to her. She also said, "Do you remember how you attached this Word to yourself?" I said "No I do not remember that." So she proceeded to tell me and as she talked I realized that this was the Word of the Expert in my situation. I received it and felt the weight of my situation dropping off my shoulders.

The Word we need comes in many forms and fits the situation at the time. The Lord never fails us when we call upon Him. We are told to call upon the Name of the Lord. His name is the Word that we need in any given situation. It will come in ways we may not expect, but it will come.

Today, it is vital for the priests of the Lord to hear the Word that comes to purify and refine the silver and the gold that He has placed within them. The wood, hay and stubble of the flesh will burn up, but the gold and silver of God will be refined.

## A HOLY PRIESTHOOD

Peter writes that the Lord is rejected of man but chosen by God and precious. And *"you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."* (I Pet.2: 5)

In the Old Testament, God separated the priesthood unto Himself; they were His firstfruits. In Christ, the firstfruits are those who are separated unto God. They are the priests who offer the acceptable sacrifice at the Altar of Incense. They are the ones who *"were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb."*(Rev.14: 4b) They appeared to John on the Isle of Patmos.

It is important to see that this priesthood is numbered. They are not the entire creation of "saved people." Jesus spoke of those whom the Father had given to Him. Of course all belong to Him, but He was speaking of a group separated for

a particular purpose. In His prayer to the Father, Jesus explains, *"I have manifested Your name to the men whom **You have given Me** out of the world. They were Yours. You gave them to Me, they have kept Your word."* (Jn.17: 6)

First there were the twelve that Jesus had called unto Himself. He told the Father that He had given them His words and that they had believed. Then He added, *"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; they they also may believe that You sent Me."* (Jn.17: 20-21) This was speaking of the priesthood that would be built up through the centuries that followed.

Jesus is the Savior of the world, yet that special prayer was covering a designated group of people. The plan of God cannot be changed. It has been in place from the foundation of the world and no one can manipulate to change it. When we heard the call to the higher calling of God in Christ, we began the journey to reach that goal. Jesus came to earth in order to offer up a sacrifice in righteousness to the Father. When we were called in Him, we were called that we might come to offer a sacrifice in righteousness as well.

Only Jesus is the atoning Lamb that takes away the sins of the world, but the priesthood in Christ is called to offer the censer filled with sweet incense along with the prayers of all the saints who are crying out for peace and deliverance. These include the ones that John saw *"...under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held."* (Rev.6:9)

In the world of today, no one can deny the need for peace and deliverance. The hope of most Christians is founded on the belief that Jesus or some great Angel from above will appear, wave His wand over the world and all will be well. But this is hardly the way that the Spirit reveals it to us.

Today, more than ever in this country, churches who name the Name of Christ are packed to capacity every Sunday morning. The ministers may

not know the real Jesus and they may have been trained to run their ministries as a business rather than from the heart, but with the events of today, people are more and more seeking for answers and crying out unto God. They elect charismatic men as leaders in the hope that these know the way to bring peace and stability to their world. But beloved the solution does not rest with any man, not even the best of them. The solution rests in the Christ that is ready to be made manifest through a body of people. This is the “Man” that will bring peace to the world. There is no need to cry about the way the politics of this world are shaping up, there is only a need to hear Him and follow Him.

Christians everywhere are calling upon the name of Jesus Christ to appear in the world and bring stability to their country. Multitudes who never attend church but who pray fervently for something better to happen in the world are calling upon the name of the Lord in any way that they can. God is answering, but perhaps not according to their expectations.

### THE TIME OF THE CENSER HAS COME

“Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. And he was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of the saints upon the Golden Altar which was before the throne. (Rev.8:3) *Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, and an earthquake.*(Vs.5) *So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth; and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.*” (Vs.6,7)

The incense does not represent the prayers of the saints, the incense is offered **along with the prayers**. The incense represents the substance of those who have reached the fullness of Christ and have been ground down to fine powder in order to offer themselves to God.

When the priests come to offer the sacrifice at the

Golden Altar with the prayers of all the saints, God answers and the deliverance and transformation of the world begins. It is when the priests of Jesus become incense upon the Golden Altar, and offer the gold and silver that He has placed in them along with the prayers of all the saints that extreme changes begin to take place in the world.

This is the time of the seven angels. We know that the angels are the messengers of the church. When the priests offer unto God the only acceptable sacrifice in righteousness, the angels move in.

The angels are the messengers of the word in the Spirit. The seven angels blow the true Word of God in the Spirit and declare that God has accepted the Golden Altar sacrifice by fire. Indeed it is then that the fire of God consumes all the works that the Adam race has established in the earth and we hear an angel “...*saying with a loud voice, 'Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth...'*” (Vs.13b)

The unfolding of the seventh and last seal has begun and will continue in the earth until all that is of the first Adam in us and in the world is fully consumed. It is then that voices are heard in heaven proclaiming, “*The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!*” (Rev.11: 15b)

Note that this all takes place “in heaven”. This means in the Spirit. Those who are in the flesh are not able to hear or understand what is happening.

### BY GRACE OR BY WORKS?

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.” (Eph.2: 8) journey begins by grace through faith and continues to the end the same way. It was when Jesus spoke about the wars, pestilences, earthquakes, false doctrines, persecutions and tribulations that His followers would be subjected to before the end of the age, that He proclaimed, “*But he who endures to the end shall be saved.*” (Matt.24: 13)

Jesus was not speaking of the survival of the fittest, He was speaking about enduring in the faith unto the end. He knew that our own faith could never endure what was coming on the earth. He was talking about keeping ourselves in the love and the word of God. When all the things that men have established collapse and none can do anything to fix the problems, what will we do? Will we panic with the rest of the world, or will we keep looking toward God's purposes and still believe that all is exactly according to His plan?

There is no doubt that Paul had been given a vision beyond his time. In the Spirit, he had seen the manifestation of the sons of God and probably much more. He said that he would give his all to attain, by any means, to the resurrection from the dead, and we know that he was referring to the first resurrection.

The resurrection of the dead comes later, the resurrection from among the dead is first. This is the resurrection of the firstfruits and it has already begun in the Spirit. If we had not experienced part of that resurrection in our spirit and soul, we would not be able to hear and understand its meaning.

Paul said that he was pressing toward the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Paul had a great desire for this, and he was certainly making an effort to attain it. Is this prize then attainable by works and not by grace through faith? Had Paul moved into works as did the Galatian church? *“O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you...Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?”* (Gal.3:1a,3)

As we read this, the accuser of the brethren who is always looking for an open door, wastes no time. He tells us that we are not doing the things that will bring us that prize. So it is good to be settled once and for all in this. The only reason Paul was able to press toward the mark and the only way we can do the same is because we have received the Spirit of the Overcomer within. We are not called to achieve great works of our own, we are called to “learn Christ” by feeding on His Word and seeing it come to pass in our lives.

It is not by taking hold of our own boot straps that we can push forward, it is when we take hold of the Christ within and move with Him. As I went on my morning walk today, I heard the message of a young preacher (Michael McCord) on my MP3- The anointing of the Word rose up in him and he clearly laid out this truth. He quoted the story of the rich young ruler whom Jesus loved as an example of those who cannot turn away from their precious possessions. I will paraphrase, “The revelations that the Lord has given to us can surely be counted as our most precious possessions, yet it does not matter how much we know or how often we read our Bibles, it makes no difference how many sermons we sat under or if we travel to Toronto or Timbuktu to hear a word by the most famous preacher in the land, none of these things can add to our status or position in God.

The only thing that will make a difference is hearing the One who is calling unto us from our own heart and soul to take up our cross and follow Him.” (End of quote) Jesus loved the young ruler and He loves us, but **to inherit** eternal life, one must follow Him only. Note that this speaks of THE INHERITANCE. **To inherit, one must be a son.** The rich young ruler desired not only life eternal, but he desired sonship.

Sons are called to do only the works that the Father has prepared for them. When we hear Him, follow Him, we are yoked together with Him and we do the good works to which we were called. *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”* (Eph.2: 10) We are His workmanship only the works that He does in us and through us are the works that God has prepared for us to do.

## TRUST AND OBEY

When we were children we learned to trust our parents and our teachers. We believed what they taught us and we followed their wisdom. We were children of Adam and as Paul writes, *“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the*

*Lord. Walk as children of light.” (Eph.5: 8) As good as our parents and teachers may have been, if they were not in Christ, they taught us the ways of darkness and we still need to learn Christ and be “renewed in the **spirit** of our minds.” (Eph.4: 20-23)*

No matter how well educated we are in the things of this world, the spirit of our minds must be renewed into thinking God's thoughts. This does not consist of memorizing Scriptures and speaking of spiritual things, it is the **spirit of our minds** that must be renewed and not the ability to learn knowledge. This has to do with **attitude and character**; it is a spiritual renewal.

As are filled with the truth that is in Jesus, we learn meekness and lowliness.. This brings about a change within us so that the ways of the old Adam die. All the teachings that we have been under in this world have been deceitful because they are not according to the truth that is in Jesus. Our learning Christ is the way to press toward the prize of the high calling of God.

Paul had the hope of attaining because God had brought him down from his high horse (pride of life). He was no longer high-minded because of his knowledge and position among the Pharisees. He laid aside and even counted as dung all of his spotless reputation among men. He loved and clung to the Word of life as the Christ was formed within him. Now, he could draw His strength from this new life and endure to the end.

The good works that Paul and his ministry did among the brethren did not count when it came to “attaining” to the prize of the high calling in Christ. What counted was the hunger in Paul's heart to know Him. Paul desired truth in the inward man and when he heard the word, he took hold of it and believed. Because he believed, he walked in it. These are the works of faith.

To endure is to remain in the faith that is within us because of the word that we hear and believe. “*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*” (Rom10: 17) We need to hear

Him in order to grow and be established in the faith. The more we pay attention to the “still small voice,” the louder and clearer it will get. The sower sows the seed of the word in our earth, but the seed must be nurtured that it may grow into the tall tree of God's kingdom within. This is what takes us on to the prize of the high calling of God. This is what brings us into first resurrection.

### **GOD'S PREDESTINATION and the Melchizedek priesthood**

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which passes understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ.” (Phil.4: 6-7) The saints at Philippi needed to be assured that God loved them and cared about them. So Paul comforted them with these words, but he was still mindful of what he had written to the saints at Rome.

“For whom He (God) *foreknew*, He also *predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.*” (Rom.8:29) It was to Rome that he had sent this letter. God's predestination is one of the apostle's great teachings and it needs to be established in our hearts. Paul made clear that there were some who were called for a certain purpose.

God did not wish that His Son remain alone so He predestined some and to assure that they would not fail, “*He also called them; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.*” (Rom.8: 30) These are groomed to become the priests who will offer the sacrifice of the Altar of Incense with the prayers of all the saints.

To be continued.

Because of His love, *Jackie Caporaso*