

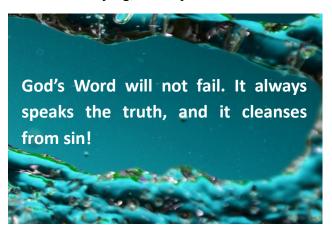
The Water of Truth

I have never been inclined to dream at night, that is, until lately. Over the last two years, I have had several dreams that were definitely from the Lord. Perhaps it is the fulfillment of Acts 2:17 which says, "Your old men shall dream dreams." Since I am in my sixth decade of life, I suppose that verse applies to women too.

Recently in a dream, I heard a sound I could not identify. I was working at my home and kept asking myself, "What is that noise?" I had a sudden revelation that it was the washing machine running. It had been running a long, long time. Quickly, I opened the door to the washroom which houses our laundry equipment. When the door was opened, water flowed into the hall, black water. It moved directionally to the bedrooms across the hallway. It appeared to move deliberately, intentionally.

Now this is important. In a natural setting, a door could not, would not, hold back a flood of water. The water would flow under the door. Yet the door kept the water confined to the washroom. The second fact of importance was the color of the water. There is no source of black, or discolored, water in the laundry, but this water was black. Thirdly, the water moved directly toward the bedrooms although it was not confined to a specific channel.

Oh, what powerful truth this dream projected to my heart. First, the Word of God is the water of life. The apostle Paul confirmed this when he declared that we are washed with the water of the Word.¹ Jesus Himself spoke to Nicodemus saying, "Except a man be born of



water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."² This, of course, refers to natural childbirth, but it also references the Word of the living God as the water that cleanses our heart from sin.

As a student of the Scriptures, we know that the water of God's Word always speaks truth. There are many verses that validate this point. In John 17:7, Jesus said to His Father, "Thy word is truth." The apostle Paul declared

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to the church at Rome "Let God be true, but every man a liar."³ In his inspired writings to Titus, he testified that God cannot lie.⁴ Certainly, God's Word brings us the truth. It is never tainted with error or blackened by deception. It is the pure, unquestionable Word of God.

One of my favorite texts describing God's Word is Numbers 23:19. Here, Balaam declared, "God is not a man, that he should lie." Then he asked, "Hath he spoken and shall he not make it good?" The answer to his question is obvious. But let Solomon speak to us. He testified, "There hath not failed one word of all



his [God's] good promise."⁵ God's Word will not fail. It always speaks the truth, and it cleanses from sin!

But can man be cleansed by impure water? In my dream, the water was discolored. It was tainted by some additive that destroyed its purity. I believe the apostle Paul addressed this when he said, "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine."⁶ Further, he witnessed "They shall turn away their ears from the truth."⁷ We must prove the soundness of man's teaching because we cannot be cleansed by doctrines of devils and we will not fulfill the Great Commission with traditions of men.

It is particularly significant that the impure water flowed toward the bedrooms. This is the place of sleep, where we are not awake and alert. Years ago, one of our friends threw his legs over the side of the bed one morning and found he was standing in water. While he and his wife were sleeping, their house flooded. They did not hear anything during the night, and they had their eyes closed so they did not see anything either. Therefore, when great destruction came to their house, they were not awake.

Wayne and I had this same experience. We were watching television in the sun room while at the opposite end of the house, water was destroying our carpet, soaking our drywall, and ruining our furniture. Like the old saying, we did not hear evil or see evil. Yet it came.

God's Word to the church (and even to the world) is, "Awake thou that sleepest, arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."⁸ Every sinner needs the light of salvation, but perhaps more powerfully, the church needs to covet the light of sound doctrine. We cannot sleep while ambassadors of error promote a social dogma that contradicts the Word of God and propels sin like a swift arrow toward a target. If we embrace deception in any measure, we cannot walk in victory. We must "walk as children of light."⁹

The glorious truth of God's Word declares that we WERE in darkness, but now we have the light of God. I love the word *were*. In the book of Ephesians, the apostle Paul declares we WERE without Christ; we WERE far off; we WERE dead in sins. But today, Jesus is our Savior and Lord. Today, we ARE saved. Today, we ARE made near by the blood of Christ. Today, we have the light of truth.

What then is the significance of the door that held back all the black water? Jesus is the door! When we hear His voice, we follow Him to green pastures and still waters. We walk in paths of righteousness, through dark valleys, to His table of blessing. How? His Spirit guides us and teaches us truth!¹⁰ With His leading, we cannot be overcome with evil or swallow up by wrong doctrine. Instead, through the truth, we will be free indeed!¹¹

¹Eph 5:26 ²Jn 3:7 ³Rm 3:4 ⁴Tit 1:2 ⁵1Ki 8:56 ⁶2Ti 4:3 ⁷2Ti 4:4 ⁸Eph 5:17 ⁹Eph 5:8 ¹⁰Jn 16:13 ¹¹Jn 8:32