

## The Wind Does Blow!

For the last several days due to power outages in our area, Wayne and I have been living with the windows of our home open. It has been a long time since this has happened. It reminds me of a visit years ago with the grandmother of a dear friend. In the heat of summer, all the windows were down and there was no air conditioning. I asked the caregiver if they ever

God comes only as we 'observe to do'

opened the windows. She Real success in responded in the strictest of colloquial vocabulary, "We ain't heisted them windows in over twenty years." This was my clue - I'm quick to figure things out sometimes - that they were not going to

be raised today. What a blessing it would have been to open a window and feel a gentle breeze.

Jesus spoke to Nicodemus about the wind. Nicodemus needed the wind of the Spirit to blow across his heart and impart eternal life. Eternal life is God's gift to all who will confess Jesus as Lord. For man's part, it takes a simple recognition of our need and a subsequent embracing of Jesus' death and resurrection to meet this need. A recognition, a confession, and then we are transported from darkness to light. The wind does blow! We are now born of the Spirit.

On the day of Pentecost about 120 people were gathered together in the upper room. They were there in obedience to Jesus' instructions. In that place, in prayer, in one accord, the sound of a rushing wind came. The wind did blow!

I see something of note in these two life-changing experiences. There is first a word from heaven. The scripture records in Hosea 4:6, My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. With knowledge,

with information, with words from heaven imparted to us by the Holy Ghost, we can begin our journey to success. This is success in God and, yes, success because of God

Joshua 1:8 talks to us about meditation in the Word of God. It uses a word I particularly like. It is the word "observe". Observation is not just receiving information. It is also guarding this information. It is scrutiny by the Holy Ghost. It is paying close attention to facts received. It is observation and preservation. The Hebrew word means to hedge about, to protect and to attend to.

During the recent storm, our fence was damaged. The purpose of the fence is to secure our dog. Because we value her loyalty of 12 years, we now walk with her in the yard. We have knowledge! There is a hole in the fence. We have observed the damage. Therefore we protect her by our presence.

When we have words from heaven, the presence of the Lord breathes on this information. It is life to us. The Holy Spirit guides us to the truth. We have information. We have God's Word. Because of Him, we have divine leadership.

continued

## A Thankful Heart

## Colossians 2

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

I am so thankful for all God is doing in our lives. We are so grateful for his divine protection during the latest run of storms.

continued

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Now, I must protect the Word from heaven. The Psalmist aptly said, *Thy Word have I hid in my heart*. (Psalms 119:11) Why? Proverbs 4:22 gives us the answer – *they are life*.

In Proverbs 4:20-22 there is an expansion of this thought. This scripture begins with attend to my words. This means to hear God's Word. The message is repeated encouraging us to listen and watch. That is not enough. Here it is again. We are to keep, guard, or protect the Word in our heart. Why? It is because God's Word is life. It will work mightily in me. The wind will blow!

If the wind of the Spirit is to work mightily in my life, I must become a doer of God's Word. I must walk in obedience to His commands. Observation is wonderful, but it is only the beginning. To honor God's Word and to hide it in my heart is necessary, but real success in God comes only as we observe to do. (Joshua 1:8) In James 1:22 we find these words, But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving, your own selves. The Holy Ghost through James further states that faith without works is dead. If we are to be blessed – to be successful – to be useful in God's kingdom, it is because we revere and act on God's Word.

This is not for my benefit alone. When the wind blows in my life, I become a blessing to others. God's word to Abraham was I will bless thee and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing. This is our divine perspective. The Holy Ghost through Paul repeats it. He who sows generously and that blessings may come to someone, will also reap generously and with blessings. (Amplified Version, 2 Corinthians 9:6)

The scripture is so clear. It says abound to every good work. It affirms that we are to be careful to maintain good works. It cries out be ready to every good work. It reminds us that we are created in Christ Jesus unto good works. It charges us to do good and to be rich in good works. Do we need further proof? No, No, No! The wind does blow!

This wind of good work becomes God's wind for His servants. Jesus came to earth as a servant. He gave His life for us. Now, he instructs us to serve others. So simply He declared, wash one another's feet. Should we say more?

Let's declare the Word of salvation. Let's advertise the day of Pentecost! Let's apply God's word in our life. Let's yield to the leadership of God's Spirit. Let's be God's servant in the earth! The wind does blow!

Becky

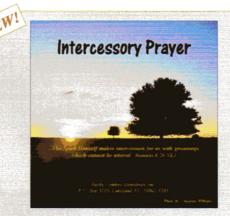


-continued from A Thankful Heart

Yes, I have been cutting up my share of trees which have fallen over during the storm. The force of the winds against the trees blew over those which were not well rooted. As I stand and look at the huge root systems of trees which have been blown over it makes me wonder where we stand with our root systems in God. Are we holding on to his Word with a firmness so that we can truly say I am rooted and grounded in Him? Yes we are and we will!

Because we are rooted in him we have his protection. Join us as we thank him for his divine protection through every storm in our life.

Wayne



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