

The Genuine Are Truth Seekers No Matter The Cost

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

As we started writing this final letter of 2025, the Holy Spirit revealed that the issues we're addressing are similar to what we wrote you in our 1-1-2025 Potpourri, [Is Our Lord Jesus Bearing 'Lasting Fruit' Through You?](#) If you didn't take to heart what the Spirit gave us to share with you 12 months ago, please prayerfully read it again. For various reasons it may be that our time to continue this ministry is getting short. But the truths He has drawn us to share with you over the years are timeless. And they are all the more needful for you and those close to you to discuss and apply as the darkness increases and nominal Christians become ever more desensitized to the reality of Lord Jesus.

During this past year you may have undergone some trying difficulties as we have, which have made our ministry labors all the more challenging. (And you may have experienced too the need for perseverance and endurance that's found throughout both Testaments.) The past many months have involved a myriad of doctor/hospital/urgent care visits for Mike. We've found over the past years that far fewer VA medical personnel are experienced in effectively helping veterans who suffer from the increasing devastating effects of Agent Orange which Mike has. But we're so thankful to our Father for encouraging us during our most recent visit to Urgent Care at the VA to be treated by a doctor who understood what he's going through. She served in the Army very near the burning oil fields in Kuwait during the Persian Gulf War, and she has continued to suffer the effects of the chemicals released from the burning oil. She's very familiar with Agent Orange sufferers from the Vietnam Conflict and with particular information which the VA hasn't publicly released for fear of having to pay more disability. It meant a lot to both of us that she understood what Mike has been living with. (After all, doesn't it mean a lot to you when someone understands what you're going through?)

We're telling you this because over the years we've increasingly realized that the more the *genuinely* born again in Christ live to fulfill our Father's purposes according to His will, the better they're able to understand the Spirit-directed ways He has used us as messengers. By contrast, the nominal in Christianity who live as "Christians" in name only have no understanding of our love-based devotion to our Father and His purposes!

Live As A Seeker Of Truth No Matter The Cost!

In a sense this letter is a kind of wrap up of years of ministry, and we hope it will spur you on before 2026 begins. Some people who receive what we write have been with us since our first letter was sent via 'snail mail' in February, 1983. Others have "come onboard" more recently. It would be hard to describe what each person on our mailing list has in common with any other. But our prayerful hope is that each person who reads, watches or listens to what the Spirit gives us to produce is a seeker of truth no matter the cost. That's why we rely on each of you who are living by the heart motive of loving and obedient trust in our Lord to ***"find out what pleases the Lord"*** (Ephesians 5:10).

We know that some of you have done nothing more than read our writings. But others have shared the contents with people alongside them in their faith journey and discussed them with the goal of living to please our Lord out of grateful appreciation to Him. In fact some have even used these materials to start house churches. One evangelist wrote us that he uses the Bible and our book [**Restoring the Early Church**](#) to start house churches throughout India. Using our book, [**Demolishing Strongholds**](#), another man advertised deliverance in a local newspaper and rented a conference room to hold a demolishing seminar. He then started house churches with the people who'd been freed by Christ from demonic enslavement and disciplined them as faith families.

There's definitely a hunger for truth and righteousness among your own relational realm which you can satisfy through the love and power of Jesus at work in and through you! One pastor watched his congregation grow to over two thousand people using *Demolishing Strongholds* to free them from demonic oppression in the power and authority of Jesus. Then the freed went out and freed others. The leaders of yet another congregation were pursuing transition to house churches and used *Restoring the Early Church* and its companion equipping series, [**Discussing How To Restore The Early Church**](#), while guiding themselves with our book, [**Pastoring By Elders**](#). In purposing to disciple their membership to live a life that pleases our Lord, they discontinued the "normal" academic style of pulpit preaching, using instead the interactive method our Lord Jesus used which we write about in [**Christian Halakhahs**](#).

We could give you many more examples of *genuinely* born again followers of Jesus bearing fruit for the Kingdom using the materials the Holy Spirit has given us to produce. We're telling you this not because we're anyone special, but because we know [**Who revealed these truths**](#) for us to share. Our desire is that you and everyone you know in Christ would be truth seekers no matter the cost, and put these truths into action in your own life to please our Lord and lift Him up out of grateful and loving hearts.

"Hope deferred makes the heart sick..." (Proverbs 13:12).

If you've been with us for many years, you may remember that our Father commanded us these directives, ***"Contend for My Son Jesus!" "Free the captives!"*** Fulfilling these mandates has led us in ways we could have never imagined beforehand. But one of our saddest assignments was being led by the Holy Spirit to thoroughly study Christian history, especially the [**widespread nominalism**](#) which grew through anti-Semitic theology. Being "Christian" was something you did because your family did, or because it was advantageous to you socially or economically. This demonic deception of [**Christianity without the lordship of Jesus**](#) started when Roman Catholicism adopted the organizational structure of the pagan Roman Empire and incorporated Greek pagan religious practices. And anti-Semitic Protestantism in general altered little as far as nullifying the lordship of Jesus and the work of His indwelling Spirit in the *genuinely* born again. Why do we say this? Because the rule of our Lord Jesus and the purposes of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christ's own were eliminated as the way of life for Christians. Men wanted to be in control. How many Christians do [**you**](#) know who live ruled by our Lord and guided by His Spirit? Are *you*? What are you going to do about it so He can fully use you for His glory?

As we've sadly understood how and why nominal Christianity has taken root so pervasively, Mike in particular has experienced such a sense of emotional crushing in his heart. Perhaps being prophetically gifted by the Spirit has added to the sorrow of how authentic Christians who *could* have impacted the lives and society around them chose instead to compromise with the world system and self-idolatry. A verse that describes his heart over these years is this: “*A man’s spirit can endure sickness, but a crushed spirit who can bear?*” (Proverbs 18:14). This crushing has been compounded by the eradication of what our Lord Jesus established as the foundations for His followers as His body:

“[Our Lord Jesus] gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds/teachers, ♦to equip the saints for the work of ministry, ♦for building up the body of Christ, ♦until we all attain to the unity of the faith ♦and of the knowledge of the Son of God, ♦to mature manhood, ♦to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ♦so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, ♦speaking the truth in love, ♦we are to grow up in every way into Him Who is the Head, into Christ, from Whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, ♦when each part is working properly, ♦makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love” (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Why does this mean so much?

It's our earnest hope that you realize the devastation that's been caused by both Catholicism and Protestantism in eliminating the above anointings our Lord established. During some of the recent darker hours of Mike's medical issues, the Holy Spirit revealed to him an understanding of Ephesians 4:11-16 using his own life experiences.

First, some backdrop: Shortly after becoming a follower of our Lord Jesus in 1977, Mike was given a prophetic anointing by the Spirit through the two chaplains on his ship which they based on Ezekiel 33:2-9. Then in 1983 when we began serving at a retreat center, the pastors in our region commissioned Mike to be “an apostle among them, serving all of them but belonging to none of them.” We realized that the apostolic and prophetic combination given to him by the Spirit was to fulfill a specific mission. In Mike's case this meant going forth among God's people to build them up and strengthen their resolve to love, trust and obey our Lord Jesus, and to warn them when they sinned. The Spirit anointed Sue with gifts of unwavering faith and exhortation so that through the Spirit and in our marriage she has been a “*fitting companion*” (Genesis 2:20).

A recent insight: The Holy Spirit revealed to Mike a fuller understanding of his own anointing and the other anointings our Lord established among His own. He also made clear why so much nominalism has been kept going by theologians and clergy. The apostle, prophet, and evangelist in particular are our Lord Jesus's means as representatives who are directly accountable to His Headship and specifically guided by His Spirit. With our Lord Jesus as their Head, they live **obedience-based** in fulfilling our Father's will no matter the cost. Humbly driven by love, compassion and trust, they serve our Lord as examples of obedience-based lives so others can see and serve likewise.

As the apostle, prophet and evangelist participate in their spiritual anointings in serving our Lord Jesus, they are role modeling for all the *genuinely* born again a cooperative way of life in fulfilling Father's purposes. This is a life in the Spirit which has nothing to do with weekly center-stage clergy performances that were adapted from ancient Greek theater. Rather, our Lord Jesus's obedience-based participation by the apostle, prophet and evangelist reflects that nobody is greater than and nobody is less than. These particular anointings then mutually support the shepherd/teacher in equipping the *genuinely* born again to also cooperatively participate together in a way that pleases our Father and our Lord Jesus and produces lasting Kingdom fruit—outcomes that our Lord affirms in Ephesians 4:11-16 (see also 1Corinthians 14:26).

It has truly grieved us to see what Christianity has lost due to the diverse anti-Semitic theologies over the centuries. But it's a comfort to know that through the Hebraic foundations our heavenly Father is restoring the Biblical pattern which finds its fullness in Jesus our Lord. These truths will outlive us in bearing fruit because of Who revealed them. This means so much to both of us!

If you yearn to live as a seeker of truth no matter the cost, we want you to know an important insight which will affect your relationships. Over these years of purposing by grace to walk in loving and obedient trust in our Lord, this choice has cost us many relationships with the nominal who populate institutional Christianity. But out of loving appreciation especially for what our Lord Jesus did for us so we could draw near to our Father, we live committed to obey His Spirit no matter the cost—and quickly repent when we fall short in word, deed or attitude. Continuing to hear from Him and walk as He directs is far too precious to forfeit through independent self-will over His will! This loving life purpose of obedient trust, though, is something that nominal Christians can't take in. Just know that if you're willing to live to please the Lord you love with all your heart and soul, it will cost you.

- Have you ever asked our Father to reveal His purposes for you and for the grace to fulfill them to His glory? Or, have you lived a “Christian” life verbally acknowledging Him and Jesus—but they're an addendum to what you want of life?
- Use this coming ingathering of family and friends to highlight eternal values that truly matter. Ask each person who's coming (or take time at the event) to write a brief note to each other person who'll be there commending a specific Christlike character trait you've seen in them this past year and how that's affected you. Think about how encouraged not only the recipients will be, but also how motivated those who hear these personal commendations may be to pray for those very qualities to develop in themselves!

Whether this is an end of the year letter or an epitaph, our Lord knows. And that's all we need to know.

Mike & Sue

“Conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether [we] come and see you or only hear about you in [our] absence, [we] will know that you stand firm in one spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel” (Philippians 1:27).