

# **Rod Downey Ministries**

## **Prophecy Message**

3/8/2018

**Thank you so much Brett for all your magnificent work, a big thank you to the staff of the Ruidoso Convention Center, and thank you to the people of Ruidoso, I am honored to be here with you today sharing a most critical message.**

**Let's take a moment to imagine, by closing our eyes and placing our hands as a cup in front of us. It's March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019, one year to the day from today. You've just awoken for the morning and you find yourself reflecting. You remember this day and think, "wow, that Downey guy had a hard, tough message, and that day I chose to be one who decided to have ears to hear, to come alive with eyes**

**wide open. There is a path from darkness to light, from trouble and confusion to joy and peace. I can have a real relationship with God! And now look at me, I'm experiencing a life of joy, and love. There will never be enough for me, I rejoice! Over the year, I've passionately sought Him, I've done some turning, and some choosing of a new path. Most of all, I have an awesome renewed relationship with God, finding peace by a growing understanding, and of knowledge and wisdom. My spirit leaps giving me goosebumps, I am who I am meant to be, look out here I come!"**

**It has been said, that a man who wants to lead the orchestra must turn his back on the crowd and thus here I am!**

**I am come to be a light bearer and of salt, to glorify our Father. The light to expose that which hides in darkness and guide those to truth.**

### **Dynamics of Salt:**

- Salt seasons, preserves, heals, irritates**
- Salt burns in a wound**
- The truth of God's Word, when rubbed into this diseased world will sting MT 5:10-12, Luke 6:22, John 15:20, Tim 3:12**
- Many prefer a non-irritating brand of the Gospel, tickling the ear 2 Tim 4:3,4**
- No offence, no effect**

**Yes, there's a reason why the Word is a sword and not a powder puff.**

## **Section I – Warning, Separation from God**

**"Today I Cry aloud, and spare not, lifting up my voice like a trumpet, and show God's people their transgression, to show the house of Jacob and all houses their sins" (Isa. 58:1). I come to you as a humble watchman with urgent warnings and a message of truth, declaring Come Alive to the Dry Bones.**

**Thus, saith the Lord God, hear this, all you people, both low and high, rich and poor, together give ear, all you inhabitants of the world.**

**You are a stiff necked, prideful, rebellious and hard-hearted people, increasingly perverted, and evil in thought and deed. Hoaring after idolatry, striving with selfishness, serving false Gods, false religions, and following a dark path of Baal worship devoid of truth and light. You have not walked in My statutes, My way, neither executed My judgments, but have done after the heathen that are round about you and become an abomination across the face of the earth.**

**"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who hold back the truth in unrighteousness... Wherefore God will also give you up to uncleanness through the lusts of your own hearts, to dishonor your own bodies between themselves... For this**

**cause God will give you up unto vile affections: for even women change the natural use into that which is against nature:**

**And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another, men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which is meet.**

**And even as you do not like to retain God in your knowledge, God will give you over to a reprobate mind (wicked mind, morally deprived), to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder both within the womb and without**

**the womb, argumentative, deceit, ill will towards others; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, unable to forgive, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are WORTHY OF DEATH, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them" (Rom. 1:18, 24, 26-32).**

**Will you turn away from your idols? Will you repent and pray? Will you turn your thoughts and hearts to Me your God? Will you humble yourself and seek Me, will you trust and obey Me your Father, wherefore comes joy, peace and love.**

**My face continually must turn away from you and your hoarish evil ways. My protection, blessing, mercy and grace wanes as your separation deepens. This I say to you, do not be dismayed as darkness overtakes the light, as your enemy claims victory over you, your destruction from within your walls grows wider, your personal anguish and despair overtakes you.**

**What does this look like in real life?**

- Military can't WIN wars**
- Enemy strikes with your country**
- Institutions break down**
- Individuals strike out at each other**

**Know this, I hear your pain, you're hurting, and confusion, I see your suffering and anger! Hear Me, your choices determine your path,**

**your destiny for today, tomorrow, and for eternity.**

**Acts 17:27-28; Hebrews 11:1 (AMP) I am nearer than you think, richly present in all your moments. You are connected to Me by love-bonds that nothing can sever. However, you may sometimes feel alone, because your union with Me is invisible. Ask Me to open your eyes, so that you can find Me everywhere. The more aware you are of My Presence, the safer you feel. This is not some sort of escape from reality; it is tuning in to ultimate reality. I am far more real than the world you can see, hear, and touch. Faith is the confirmation of things we do not see and the conviction of their reality, perceiving as a real fact what is not revealed to the senses.**

**II Cron. 7:14 – If My people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their ways, then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.**

**He that has ears to hear, let him hear, she that has eyes to see, let her see, they that will turn let them turn and awaken!**

## **Section II – Warning, False Teaching**

**AND THEN, Woe unto you foolish prophets and leaders of people that have seen and heard nothing! Babbling on and on about the limited breadth of your own knowledge and understanding.**

**What is that proverb, that belief you proclaim, that the days are prolonged and**

**every vision faileth? That there is no God, there is no return of Jesus Christ the Messiah? Thus, saith the Lord God, I, even I will make this foolish proverb cease, and you shall no more use it as a saying in the land. The days are at hand, and the effect of every vision coming true. The great tribulation of Satan, Lucifer, known as The Great Dragon, that Great Anti-Christ as prophesied is at hand, and the Lord's Day, the return of Jesus Christ comes swiftly thereafter.**

**The birth pangs of the next age grows stronger, and the pace has quickened. The season is at hand. My judgment will be executed as you have been told.**

**To you My remnant, be watchmen, be diligent and steadfast, keep hold of faith, hope, joy and love! I am always with you.**

**Thus, saith the Lord God; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing! “You sooth men up in their sins, and under pretense of comforting God’s people to flatter them with hopes that they should yet have peace; but the prophets shall be proved liars, their prophecies mere shams, and the expectations of the people are illusions, for God will let them know that the deceived and the deceiver are His, and all accountable to Him.”**

**People, your prophets are like the jackals in the deserts, greedy of prey for themselves, crafty and cruel to feed themselves.”**

**Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the people to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord. “You should have made it your responsibility by teaching or your leading of people to bring them to repentance and reformation, and so have made up the hedge and put a stop the adviser’s judgment of God, but this was none of your care, you strived to please people, not how to profit them. Will you stand against vice and immortality? Will you proclaim My Word?”**

**They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The Lord saith: and the Lord hath not sent them: and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word.**

**Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, The Lord saith it; albeit I have not spoken?**

**Therefore, thus saith the Lord God; Because ye have spoken vanity, and seen lies, therefore, behold, I am against you, saith the Lord God.**

**And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the list of My people, neither shall they pass judgment; and ye shall know that I am the Lord God.**

**Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar:**

**I say unto you which daub it with untempered mortar that it shall fall: there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall rend it. “You build rotten dead walls, a spiritual house built upon sand, which looks like shelter and protection but will fall when the storm comes. Then you daube your wall with false truths to hide the cracks and make it look well to the eye. Doctrines that are groundless, though ever so grateful and tickle the ear, that are not built upon scripture and do not follow the principles of rightly dividing the word, they are not of any worth, nor will stand men in any stead, those hopes of peace and happiness which are not warranted by the word of God will by cheat men, blind men, like a wall that is well daubed. Woe to you**

**for teaching fables, and traditions of men, teaching of eating an apple from a tree to describe Satan's initial attack on Christ, and theories of escape and rapture prior to Christ's return, of hiding Me behind the walls of your religion, and of burying My knowledge and truth! You make My people spiritually desolate and unable to know the Key of David. Of you hypocrites, it is written, This people honoureth Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. Howbeit in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. Making the Word of God of none effect through your tradition which you have delivered and many such things do ye.**

**Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it?**

**Therefore, thus saith the Lord God; I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it.**

**So, will I break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered mortar, and bring it down to the ground, so that the foundation thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye shall know that I am the Lord.**

**Thus, will I accomplish my wrath upon the wall, and upon them that have daubed it with untempered mortar, and will say unto you,**

**the wall is no more, neither they that daubed it;**

**To wit, the prophets, which prophesy concerning the land, and which see visions of peace for her, and there is no peace, saith the Lord God.**

**Likewise, I set my face against those of thy people, which prophesy out of their own heart; and prophesy against them, “I speak boldly to you now, and set my face against you false teachers and dark evil leaders.”**

**Thus saith the Lord God; Woe to you that sew pillows to all armholes, and make kerchiefs upon the head of every stature to hunt souls! Will ye hunt the souls of my people, and will ye save the souls alive that come unto you?**

**And will ye pollute Me among My people for handfuls of money and gold, and for pieces of bread, to slay the souls that should not die, and to save the souls alive that should not live, by your lying to my people that hear your lies?**

**Wherefore thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against your pillows, wherewith you hunt the souls to make them fly, to escape, and I will tear them from your arms, and will let the souls go, even the souls that ye hunt to make them fly. “There is no escape from the desolation of the tribulation, or from the Lord’s Day, the return of Jesus Christ and His judgement.”**

**Your kerchiefs also will I tear, and deliver my people out of your hand, and they shall be no**

**more in your hand to be hunted; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.**

**Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and strengthened the hands of the wicked, that he should not return from his wicked way, by promising him life: “But on the other side and which is still worse, you have strengthened the hands of the wicked and emboldened them in their wicked ways and not to return from them, which was the thing the true prophets with earnestness called them to. “You have promised sinners life in their sinful ways, have told them that they shall have peace though they go on, by which their hands have been strengthened and their hearts hardened. None shall be saved expect**

**thru repentance and salvation thru Christ Jesus.”**

**Therefore, ye shall see no more vanity, nor divine divinations: for I will deliver my people out of your hand: and ye shall know that I am the Lord.**

**Recognizing we have a huge void of truth allow me to take a small side trip that will assist in your journey and that is to gain “Lost Knowledge” for disciplined learning.**

## **Studying Disciplines:**

The One Great Object of the Word – Is that the Word is given to interpret Him, His plan and His will for us in relation to His plan. This is to say that the Word (Bible) when studied gives the reader an understanding and knowledge of God, and answers those questions of Who am I? Why am I here? What is my life's purpose? What is the overall Plan of God?

The One Great Subject of the Word - The one great subject which runs through the whole Word of God is Jesus Christ the King.

I exhort you “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” II Tim. 2:15

Literary Form

Subject Matter

Times and Dispensations

Dispensational Truth and Teaching

1. We must not take truth from one dispensation and read it into another dispensation
2. We must not take the truth belonging to the past dispensation and interpret it of the present
3. The present not to be read into the past
4. The future not to be read into the present
5. The truth and teaching of the Canonical order is to be distinguished from the Chronological and Historical order

Part Two: The Words

Rule 1 The meaning of the words is to be gathered from the scope of the passage, and not the scope from the words

Rule 2 The scope of a passage may best be discovered by its structure

Rule 3 The Biblical usage of words is essential to their correct interpretation

Rule 4 The context is always essential to the interpretation of words

Rule 5 The first occurrence of words, expressions, and utterances are generally essential to their interpretation

Rule 6 The place where the passage occurs is often essential to its full interpretation

Rule 7 No one passage to be interpreted in a sense conflicting to others that are clear

Rule 8 The importance of accuracy in the study of the words of scripture

Rule 9 Figures of speech

Rule 10 Interpretation and application

Rule 11 The limits of inspiration

Rule 12 The place of various readings

New Testament

Ancient Versions

**To learn more, you can go to [RodDowneyMinistries.org](http://RodDowneyMinistries.org) under the teaching tab and read “Lost Knowledge and Hidden Truths”.**

**AND THEN, woe to Satan and you sons of Cain, for crafting your terrible beast system to rule the world enslaving people. Your control and bondage of people thru government, economics, religion, and education has created great pain, suffering and death. You do not own the soul and spirit of man, and you do not own the earth that is walked**

**upon. You seek to swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail. I God will not forget your works, destroying My Sabbath for your gain, creating bondage in place of freedom, hate in place of love and mercy, and a great famine in the land of hearing the word of God. Today, I strike the door post of your sanctuary and warn the season is at end, the swift coming of the Lord's Day, the second coming of Jesus Christ is on your doorstep. My judgment will be true!**

**He that has ears to hear, let him hear, she that has eyes to see, let her see, they that will turn let them turn and awaken!**

### Section III - Salvation Message, God's Path

**AND NOW, People I declare to you, the Good News, nothing can compare with all that is ours in Christ when we find salvation. Forgiveness. Justification. Adoption to be sons and daughters of the Living God. Peace and Joy. A renewal of a relationship with God our Father. Eternal life. What a glorious life the Gospel offers to those who are searching for purpose and meaning or to those who have found that materialism and sensual pleasure are not the answer to the deepest yearnings of the heart.**

**The crowning glory of salvation is promised when we enter into the presence of the King. We have a home in heaven reserved for us**

**and awards that await us. No wonder the Gospel is “good news,” and transformational, the great mystery revealed. I speak to you of that which is real, powerful, and moving, not of man’s religion!**

**LOOK! Do you really want joy and love in your heart, do you really want to know God exists because you experience real life interactions with Him? Do you want truth and knowledge? I proclaim to you, I don’t have Dream, I have a reality!**

**“Come away with me for a while. The world, with its nonstop demands, can be put on hold. Most people put Me on hold, rationalizing that someday they will find time to focus on Me. But the longer people push Me into the background of their lives, the**

**harder it for them to find Me. You live among people who glorify busyness, they have made time a tyrant that controls their lives. Even those who know Me as Savior tend to march to the tempo of the world. They have bought into the illusion that more is always better: more meetings, more programs, more activity, more things. I have called you to follow Me on a solitary path, making time alone with me your highest priority and deepest joy. It is a pathway largely unappreciated and often despised. However, you can choose a better thing, which will never be taken away from you. Moreover, as you walk close to Me, I can bless others through you.**

**Unfortunately, many false prophets today have distorted the meaning of salvation, saying that it means only political, social and economic liberation in this life. This is the definition of Religion, and yes, Christians should be concerned about injustice and do what they can to promote a more just world. But lasting and complete liberation from social injustice will come only when Jesus Christ returns to establish His Kingdom. God's truth of salvation is far deeper, because it gets to the root of our problem—the problem of sin. Only Christ can change the human heart and replace greed and hate with compassion and love. Only Christ creates the ability to reconnect with God.**

**Do you understand God's plan of salvation?**

**There are certain points we all need to understand about the heart of the Good News of Christ.**

**First, all are sinners and stand under the judgment of God. “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23, NIV). We might believe that we are good enough to win God’s favor or that we can perform certain religious acts to counterbalance our bad deeds. But God’s letter to us states that we are all condemned, for “there is no one righteous, not even one” (Romans 3:10, NIV).**

**Second, we need to understand what Christ has done to make our salvation possible. God loves us, and Christ came to make forgiveness and salvation possible. What did He do? He died on the cross as the complete sacrifice for**

**our sins. He took upon Himself the judgment that we deserve. Christ completed every prophecy even from the beginning.**

**Third, we need to respond to God's work. God in His grace offers us the gift of eternal life. But like any gift, it becomes ours only when we take it. We must choose.**

**We must repent of our sins. Repentance carries with it the idea of action, of confession, sorrow, turning and changing. We put our spiritual being at the head and the flesh man at the back, and with the indwelling of the word of God in our mind we rebuild our relationship with God. We must turn from our practice of sin, and turn by faith to Christ as our Lord and Savior. "It is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from**

**yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9, NIV). Christ invites us to come to Him, and God has promised, “to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” (John 1:12, NIV).**

**Fourth, we must understand the cost of coming to Christ and following Christ. Jesus constantly called upon those who would follow Him to count the cost. A person must determine to leave his sins behind and turn from them. Some people may be unwilling to do so. And there may be other costs as well when we decide to follow Christ. In most cultures, a person who turns to Christ may be disowned by family, alienated from social life, imprisoned or even killed.**

**The ultimate cost of true discipleship is the cost of renouncing self: self-will, self-plans, self-motivations. Christ is to be Lord of our lives. Jesus declared, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me” (Luke 9:23, NIV). Jesus does not call us to a life of selfish comfort and ease—He calls us to a battle! He calls us to give up our own plans and to follow Him without reserve—even to death.**

**Yes, it costs to follow Christ. But it also costs not to follow Christ. It cost the Apostle Paul the prestige of a high-level position in the Jewish nation. But he declared, “whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for**

**whose sake I have lost all things” (Philippians 3:7-8, NIV). Christ calls men and women not only to trust Him as Savior, but also to follow Him as Lord.**

**Fifth, salvation is intimately linked to the cross. The man who hung there between two thieves was without sin. His virgin birth, by the miraculous intervention of the Holy Spirit, meant that He did not inherit a sinful human nature. Neither did He commit any sin during His lifetime. Mary gave birth to the only perfect child. He became the only perfect man. As such, He was uniquely qualified to put into action God’s plan of salvation for mankind.**

**Why was Calvary’s cross so special, so different from hundreds of other crosses used**

**for Roman executions? It was because on that cross Jesus suffered the punishment for sin that we all deserve. He was our Substitute. He suffered the judgment and condemnation of death that our sinful nature and deeds deserve. "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21, NIV).**

**Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, "I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:2, NIV). Paul knew there was a built-in power in the cross and the resurrection.**

**Finally, faith is essential for salvation. But we must be absolutely clear on what we mean**

**when we speak of “salvation by faith.” There are various kinds of belief or faith, and not all are linked to salvation. In the New Testament, faith means more than intellectual belief. It involves trust and commitment. I may say that I believe a bridge will hold my weight. But I really believe it only when I commit myself to it and walk across it. Saving faith involves an act of commitment and trust, in which I commit my life to Jesus Christ and trust Him alone as my Savior and Lord.**

## **A Personal Example**

**Let me use a personal example to illustrate this. When I first met Ronda, my future wife, I began to learn things about her—her beliefs,**

**her dreams, and so on. As time went on, I learned more about her personality and character, and I fell in love with her.**

**But we were not yet married. We became husband and wife only when we took a definite step of commitment to each other on our wedding day.**

**In the same way, saving faith is a commitment to Jesus as Savior and Lord. It is a personal and individual decision. It is more than assent to historical or theological truth given to us in God's Word. It is faith in the promises of God that all who trust in Christ will not perish but have eternal life.**

**That is truly good news.**

**(How to Receive Christ)**

**I hope this message has helped you to understand what Jesus Christ has done to save us and what our response must be. If you are not sure that you are right with God, you can be sure—right now. No matter your race, your nationality, male/female, God created us all, and to all created a path of relationship to Him thru Christ.**

**Remember, we must admit that we are sinners. We must turn away from our sins and to Christ. We must trust Him as our Savior and follow Him as our Lord. God promises that when we do this, He will save us and make us His children, and we will live with Him forever.**

**Will you turn to Christ now?**

**God loves you so much that He gave His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for your sins. If you believe in Him, turn from your sins, and make Jesus the Lord of your life, you will have eternal life with Him in Heaven.**

**Will You Pray This Prayer Today?**

**Dear Lord Jesus,**

**I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. Guide my life and help me to do Your will.**

**In Your name, Amen.**

**The truth is, we can be sure about where we will spend eternity. We can know with certainty that when we die, we will go to heaven. But how can we be sure? Many people struggle with the certainty of their salvation, especially new believers.**

**How can we know where we stand with God? The Bible teaches that the assurance of salvation rests securely upon four unshakable pillars:**

### **Pillar 1: God Cannot Lie!**

**Assurance is based on the absolute trustworthiness of Scripture. Throughout the New Testament, we read God's promises to save all who will believe upon His Son. The Bible says, "Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved." (1) This is a**

**promise! All who have committed their lives to Jesus Christ may have the firm confidence of salvation based upon the infallibility of God's Word.**

**Jesus said, "The one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out." (2) If you come to Jesus with genuine repentance and faith, He promises that He will save you. We can know Jesus has received us because, quite simply, He said so! When the Bible speaks, God speaks. And what God said, He will surely do. He will save all who call upon Jesus Christ. You have His word on it.**

## **Pillar 2: Jesus Paid It All**

**Assurance rests on the finished work of Jesus Christ. When Jesus died on the cross, He bore our iniquities, enduring God's wrath, and**

**cried out, “It is finished!” (3) By this, He meant that the full atonement for all our sins-past, present and future-has been made. His work of redemption now completed, our entire sin debt is paid in full.**

**Just as salvation comes from believing in Christ alone, so does assurance. As we trust in Christ’s perfect sacrifice for our sins, the certainty of eternal life floods our hearts. No matter how great your sin, God’s grace is greater still. The Bible says, “Come now, and let us reason together. ... Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.**

**Pillar 3: The Great Convincer**

**Assurance comes through the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. A divinely produced gift, assurance is bestowed by God's Spirit to all true believers. It is the Holy Spirit's ministry to convince our hearts of our salvation.**

**In actuality, no preacher, evangelist, parent or friend can give us assurance. Neither can we work it up within ourselves. Only the Holy Spirit Himself can give us the absolute certainty of our eternal salvation.**

**The Bible says, "We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit which He has given us." (5) ... "By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit." (6) ... "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." (7) This means, the Holy Spirit who**

**convicted, called and converted us also convinces us that we belong to Christ. It is the Spirit's inward witness that persuades us of the genuineness of our salvation.**

#### **PILLAR 4: New Life in Christ**

**Assurance comes through the evidence of a changed life. Ultimately, assurance is confirmed within us as we see God conforming us into the image of Jesus Christ. All who have been born again will see clear evidences of a new life in Christ. While we will never become perfect in this life, we will, nevertheless, experience a changed life. It is this inward transformation that provides strong confirmation of our salvation.**

**The book of First John details what are the vital signs of our new life in Christ. The**

**Apostle John writes, “We know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.” (8) In other words, we may be certain that we know Christ as we see within us a desired and willing obedience to God’s Word.**

**Likewise, John writes, other vital signs will follow: Love for other people, (9) love for God, (10) refusing the world, (11) understanding biblical truth, (12) righteous behavior, (13) opposition from the world (14) and answered prayer. (15) As we see this spiritual fruit produced in our lives, we may be confident that Christ lives within us.**

**My purpose is that you may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that you may have the full riches of complete**

**understanding, in order that you may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Col 2:2-3)**

**Think upon what the journey of experiencing the mystery of Christ is, the transformation of entering into the inner chamber, the abiding relationship as we pursue and seek God.**

**To repent and ask for forgiveness and then to feel the wave of freedom and peace overcome you,**

**To be awestruck at the first time you hear God,**

**To sit and be still, and know that God loves me, cares about me,**

**To experience the connectedness to God just as a grape vine is connected to its trunk and receives all its source of life,**

**To excitement and joy to pray for healing power on a friend or loved one and to awaken the next day and to hear and see the healing performed,**

**To read God's letter to us, and be enlightened, filled with truth, knowledge, and understanding,**

**So, here are the four sturdy pillars on which the assurance of our salvation rests. Giving "full assurance of hope" (16) regarding our personal relationship with Jesus Christ, these pillars provide unshakable confidence of eternal life.**

**We can be wrong about earthly directions but not about our eternal destiny. In our salvation, we must be sure. Assurance of salvation is God's blessed gift for all who believe: "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life." (17)**

**May the power of the Holy Spirit always be with you, and to God always and forever be the glory.**

**Amen**

**The time is now for us to come up, on bended humbled knees to pray.**