

Heavenly Journey Testimony Lesson

Last Sunday, Dr. Hunt presented unto the group that meets at his house a testimony pertaining to the heavenly journey he recently returned from. Each of us was given a printed copy of the four-paragraph testimony and was instructed to read it, receive from the Lord, and write on the paper what the Lord showed us. We were given a space of time to complete our assignment and Dr. Hunt indicated he would return shortly. Upon beginning the assignment, one or more of us were tempted to “improve upon” the word spoken and instead of writing our response, to type it. However, all present obeyed the word of God and wrote our response as instructed.

Our assignment thereafter was to have the members of the individual house ministries to engage in the same exercise. To this end, the group prepared specific instructions indicating that the testimony should be printed out by each individual and that each should receive and write what they received on the same piece of paper.

Several days later, I received an e-mail from Adrian Carter reformatting the testimony in Microsoft Word to allow respondents to type what they received instead of writing it. Crystal Harvey responded to Adrian's e-mail encouraging him to reread the very specific instructions (especially in light of the portion of Dr. Hunt's testimony where he dealt with the man who lacked faith as evidenced by his failure to obey the simple word of God). Upon seeing Crystal's e-mail, I began to type a message to Adrian showing him why Crystal had sent such a message but the Lord had me to delete the message and not send it. I later received a response from Adrian indicating that he had reformatted the testimony at the request of Pastor Carter. Thereafter, I spoke to Adrian and showed him why Crystal sent the message and I sought the Lord to see why Pastor Carter indicated that he should reformat the testimony.

The Lord revealed to me that there was a fundamental difference between Pastor Carter's actions and the actions of the man in Dr. Hunt's testimony who lacked faith. The man who failed to say the word “Amen” did not lack faith simply because he failed to speak as God instructed -- he lacked faith because his heart was not given over to God. His unbelief was evidenced by his action – his unbelief was not caused by his action. Pastor Carter, on the other hand, has been highly favored to know the ways of the Lord. In this instance, the Lord had him to read the very specific instructions but to further hear from the Lord as to his clearer word. In doing so, he acted upon the Word of God and was not attempting to “improve upon” God's Word unlike the man who failed to say “Amen.”

Dr. Hunt and Pastor Carter operate by the same Spirit evidenced by Dr. Hunt's similar instructions given in response to Lillian Hunt questioning how she should go about completing the exercise. Lillian inquired of Dr. Hunt about the exercise and he showed her that she should get with Eneka to type her response on computer. Later, when Dr. Hunt saw that Lillian wrote her response on paper, he questioned her and she advised that she had spoken to Crystal who stressed the importance of following the strict instructions.

However, this was contrary to the clearer Word. The Lord showed that Dr. Hunt and Pastor Carter received the clearer word from God even though they had no contact with one another regarding this matter.

The lesson to be learned here is, God speaks and we must obey. However, God does not always reveal in whole, but rather, in part. We must be open to hear God's word in its fullness. AMOG (Anointed Man of God) reveals and unfolds God's clearer word and we cannot be so rigid to attempt to hold on to an initial word spoken by God and ignore His clearer word. Note that when Christ was tempted, the enemy brought to him an initial word spoken by God. This is a common tactic of the enemy intended to prevent God's people from walking in overcoming power. Jesus Christ, in each instance (Matthew Chapter 4), responded to Satan with the clearer word of God evidencing his overcoming power. We must do likewise.