



**PART ELEVEN:
FINAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Spiritual Experience

DO YOU REMEMBER THIS HYMN?

It is a prayer in a song.

**Open my eyes that I may see.
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key.
That shall unclasp and set me free.**

I pray that you may pray this prayer before you read this message.

JESUS LIED?!

(My question for a doubting Thomas.)

Who convinced you that Jesus Christ lied?

Never once did he say something he did not mean.

Listen **WITH YOUR HEART** and not your head. **LISTEN** to his words very carefully.

John 14:10 New Living Translation

Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me.

Mark 10:18 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone."

John 14:12 New International Version (NIV)

¹² "Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."

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Those are words of Truth which many learned and well intending men have breezed past in their bible studies because THEY could not believe them. How about you?

I believe them, and I have taken the trouble to test the words and I have found they are true.

Jesus was a "wayshower" ... providing us with a living example of how we can behave and react to others ... if only we will take him and his words *seriously*.

Is it easy to do? Heck no! But it can be done if you call for the Father's strength and courage.

Yes, the Father and I are one ... one in our desire to do GOoD, to express GOoD, to BE GOoD. For don't you realize that God is all in all?

Any time you do something GOoD you are expressing God, you are permitting the Father to express through you. God is GOoD.

You smile at someone who is having a very difficult day and that genuine smile lifts their spirits. You have just done something good. You have just expressed GOoD ... God. You just let God bless another THROUGH you. You do not take the credit for it ... because you just gave God the time and the opportunity to express Himself/Herself through you. It is that simple.

You do not have to give away a million dollars to do something good. More often than not it is the small acts of kindness that contain the greatest blessings ... that let God express through you.

Let me tell you about one of the greatest blessings that has ever been bestowed upon me...then perhaps you will get the understanding.

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I was unemployed and down to my last cent when I entered the ground level of a big downtown bank. I had had an interview for a very good paying job and today was the day I was to phone the company in order to hear if I was the successful candidate or not.

I walked into the bank building hoping to find a pay phone and did, but when I put my hand in my pocket for a quarter for the phone call my hand came out empty.

I was in a mild state of shock and was feeling very embarrassed. I was going to have to beg for a quarter. That was all I could do and it took a lot of courage on my part when a very well dressed older gentleman was spotted approaching me.

I swallowed my pride and I said something like, "Excuse me sir. I have a problem. I am unemployed and I applied for a job, and I must phone them today to find out if I was the successful candidate. But I do not have the money to make the phone call. Could you spare a quarter?"

The man looked at me, hesitated for a second, then reached into his pocket and gave me a quarter. I thanked him profusely.

About sixty seconds later I learned ... I had the job. I wanted to run after the man and thank him but he was long gone, having disappeared in the crowd of pedestrians.

Now I was full of gratitude and praise to God for sending THAT man to help me. To me he was GOoD. Yes indeed, to me he was God.

Now don't get all big headed and feel that what I suggest is baloney ... however I will say this:

DON'T TAKE MY WORD FOR THIS. Study it, meditate on it and more than anything else, TRY it ... prove it for yourself ... for the

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God in you, the **Father** in you, has been waiting since the day you were born for this moment in your life.

Yes, the **Father** within is alive and well. Will you recognize His/Her Presence deep within you and begin your personal relationship? It may only cost you a quarter.

Spiritual Experience

MY LAST VISIT WITH MOM

Those rare moments in time when I could sit alone with my mom and talk about the things that were of interest to just the two of us were precious moments indeed. As it turned out my last visit with mom was the most precious of all.

All three sons were very aware that Mom's time was short. The transition from her own home to the nursing home went surprisingly well, but something changed in her after she settled in to her new environment.

I was living 1100 miles away from her when the message was delivered that if I wanted to see Mom again I had better get there quick. I grabbed a flight to the nearest airport and was by her side in short order.

Mom and I always had the ability to be able to simply sit side by side and enjoy each other's company without feeling the need to speak. So it was, that after our opening pleasantries, I settled into a chair beside her bed and our silence began.

It seemed as though only a few moments had passed when out of the corner of my eye I saw something move. A hat which had been hanging on a nail high up on the wall was falling. As it descended it bumped into a picture turning it slightly then continued to the floor. For a moment I didn't move. I simply became aware that there were no windows open so there was no wind movement that could have caused the hat to fall. I reached down and picked up the hat and put it back on the nail noting as I did that the nail was long and well embedded in the wall.

I then turned my attention to the picture and realized it was Mom and Dad's wedding picture. I touched the frame and straightened the picture then I sat down again. I was now deep in thought. That hat did not move by itself, I knew that. It was then the thought entered my head and the words left my lips: "Mom, Dad's in the room." Without batting an eye, she responded: "Yes I know." He was there waiting for her and we both knew it. He simply knocked the hat off the wall to let us both know that he was there and that all was well.

My return flight was bittersweet, but I knew that it was okay for me to go home now, that Dad would take care of things ... and he did.

WHAT CAN I GIVE TO MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY?

Perhaps the most enlightening moment I have had in the last 30 years came today, July 11, 2014. Yes 7/11 at 12:11PM.

I was studying page 223 of THE WAY TO THE KINGDOM when a light bulb turned on in my mind. It made me very aware that one can read and study all kinds of spiritual material and still easily glide past the most important sentence in the book. Such was the case for me...until today. I am sure the angels were yelling out at full voice: "By Jove, he's got it. At *long* last he's got it."

Now, after that introduction I had better settle down and tell you precisely what it is that I caught.

Like almost every other soul on this planet I have searched for happiness, health, prosperity and joy...in the wrong places...never realizing they are not to be found in a place but in an attitude change.

Essentially, like most others I suspect, I had been seeking to get. What the book revealed to my astonished mind was; I needed to stop seeking ways in which I could get happiness for myself and instead start seeking ways in which I could give happiness to others. Now this obviously is not making a door mat of yourself but genuinely seeking to discover some simple thing that you could give which would thrill another.

Perhaps the best example that comes to my mind is the situation wherein a mother goes Christmas shopping for her daughter and spots something very special. One glance and the thought flashes in her mind and is reflected as a warm glow in her heart, "Won't she love this!" That is giving motivated by pure love. That, I believe, is what the book is talking about.

The text goes on to say that when we do this it is like putting the horse in front of the cart, instead of the other way around. Then the horse, God in this scenario, can move forward to get for us all we desire in our hearts. Anyone who has ever ridden a horse knows full well...it doesn't work the other way around.

So rejoice with me and take hold of the truth. It is my prayer that it will bless you much more than it has blessed me.

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A VERY UNUSUAL SONG

I had been asked to sing in church on Sunday morning and therefore had selected something that I felt was appropriate for the occasion. I went to bed on Saturday night confident that I had properly prepared myself, but I was not prepared for what happened in the middle of the night.

Somewhere around 3 AM I was awakened with music in my head, a very familiar occurrence for those of us who are involved in songwriting. As I listened to this music words started to float into my mind, but these words were very different.

As almost everyone is aware, songs are usually a projection by the singer to the object of their affection, as in a traditional love song. However, what I was hearing was a series of questions directed to me.

As quickly as I could I got out of bed, rushed to my sound room, and set up the recording equipment to capture this music. The words flowed to me as fast as I could write them down, then picking up the guitar and turning on the sound system this is what I recorded:

Listen

What did you say that calmed them
When they came that stormy night?
Who gave the thoughts that followed
That gave them pure White Light?

Did you know it was I who spoke when
You said: "Lord speak through me"?
Did you know the words that followed
They'll recall eternally?

Change key

**And when you said: "Lord God above
The Highest and the Best.
That's all I'll ask of You my Lord
I know you'll do the rest."**

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The thoughts and words that flowed were then
My Mind that comes through thee.
Did you know that's how it works My child
When you let Me work so free?

This little song can move along
And touch those who are free
And they will know the truth at last
How you and I agree.

Change key

**Mankind thinks that God's above
And so, so far away.
They do not know I live inside
And I AM there to stay.**

Now child of Mine go sing your song
To all who will sit still
And listen to My Words today
And know it is My Will.

For I reside in all of them
And wait, and knock, and speak.
My Still Small Voice is waiting for
Their listening ear to seek. (TAG repeat).

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