

Flames of Faith Ascending Prayers



To every *thing there is* a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

He hath made every *thing* beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

I know that *there is* no good in them, but for *a man* to rejoice, and to do good in his life.

And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, *it is* the gift of God.

I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth *it*, that *men* should fear before him.

That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 11-15



**As the hart panteth after the water brooks,
so panteth my soul after thee, O God.**

LOST IN THE WOODS

Sometimes one of the hardest things to do is to get started. I suppose this is especially true when someone doesn't know where to go or what to do next. I hate that feeling. I know God's Word is full of directional promises. Yet, sometimes it is hard to see the proverbial tree because of the forest. If any of you are like me, I cannot tell you which way is East or West unless I can see the sun rising or setting. This means, for all intents and purposes, I am completely lost if the day is cloudy. I am amazed and somewhat fascinated that most men don't have this lack of directional sense. Lately, for me, clarity has been obscured by clouds and to make matters worse I have had that feeling that I am on the wrong path even though something about it seems so familiar.

You know...that thought that says, "You've been down this path before?" Something just doesn't seem right but you keep going anyway? Then you think, 'No, wait a second,' and you force yourself to stop and stand still while you try to evaluate and re-orient your sense of direction. You turn yourself in a circle, scanning, trying to get your bearings. Suddenly you realize that you have lost track of the path that led you there. The worn path is gone and you're not sure the way back...or the direction.

I did this wandering in the woods when I was a kid. There is a sort of sickly, panicky feeling the rises. Especially, when it is beginning to get dark. I hate that too.

I know what generally happens when I go traipsing off in the woods by myself. I get distracted by all the things around me and just have to investigate everything that catches my eye. It is sort of a stubborn streak of insatiable curiosity. Yes, I have been here before. It is filed in my mind under "I should have known better."

I wonder if Eve had this problem while she was traipsing around in the Garden? By herself? Without any thought of boundaries or rules? The answer is ...yes!

FINDING THE WAY BACK

The Way back always begins with prayer. Always. **When in doubt, pray.** Remember: If any of you lack **wisdom, let him ask** of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given **him** - **James 1:5.**

All roads, and paths, lead to Jesus. **When in doubt, ask.** It's ok to be like Thomas. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me - **John 14:4-6.**

I began asking, praying, searching, praying more, and asking more earnestly. I am still doing that. The clouds have begun to clear a bit and so I can see a little better. So, I want to share what I see thus far keeping in mind that **we see through a glass darkly 1 Corinthians 13:2.**

It is vitally important to recognize that the Church is a Living organism. Jesus is the Head and we are parts of His body - For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. - **Ephesians 5:30.** It doesn't matter how large or how small the gathering is...For where **two** or three **are gathered** together in my name, there am I in the midst of them - **Matthew 18:20.**

To stray from the path means to go in a direction not governed by the Head. For the Body goes where the head directs. **The Body does not tell the Head what to do but the Head tells the Body.**

Now all of this may seem academic to you all but it is necessary to see the Truth before we go any further. All of this was purposed long ago and the Lord has been very particular about what He wants and what He expects. In fact...it is written.

“ I AM THE AUTHOR “

This is one of the first things the Lord spoke to me when He began answering my prayers. I guess I thought that I had the understanding of Authorship...WRONG !

Here is part of it: **For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of *the* saints -1 Corinthians 14:33.**

And being made perfect, he became *the author* of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him - Heb 5:9.

Looking unto Jesus, *the author* and finisher of *our* faith; who for *the* joy that was set before him endured *the* cross, despising *the* shame, and is set down at *the* right hand of *the* throne of God - Heb 12:2.

Ready? He is **NOT** the Author of confusion **BUT of PEACE**. In ALL the CHURCHES.

He is PERFECT and became the **Author of ETERNAL SALVATION** to ALL them **THAT OBEY HIM**.

And, we are to LOOK unto Jesus who is **the Author and Finisher** of our Faith.

This brings me to the Word “**Author.**” Obviously it is in the scripture and meticulously placed as truth for us to absorb.

I am going to write these very eye-opening definitions here for you to see.

Author

One who originates or begins; Creator.

Author-ity Author-ities

Before I go further, let me put scriptures here so you can see it in action.

For he taught them as *one* having *authority*, and not as the scribes - Matthew 7:29

Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; *angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him* - 1 Peter 3:22.

Notice that He speaks as one **having Authority** and in fact, **angels, and authorities, and powers are subject to Him.** And **Hebrews 12** goes on to say:

“For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected *us*, and we gave *them* reverence: **shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?”**

Now, if you will follow along with me, you will find out what I have done wrong and how I have been chastened by the Father. And I would spare you from the making the same mistakes. **So let’s go back to the Author-ity of Jesus.** Understand it is:

1. The right to command and to enforce obedience. The right to act and to decide.
2. Delegated right or power: author-ized.
3. Those having the power to govern or command; ex. Police or judiciaries
4. Title of respect, confidence, personal influence from character or experience; ex. He speaks with authority.
5. A person, or written volume appealed to in support of an action or belief.
6. One who has special knowledge, as an expert; Ex. He is an authority in Law.
7. An official group having administrative control over a specific area; Ex. Port Authority
8. An authoritative opinion, decision, or precedent.

**To Be Absolutely Clear...I am not Authorized in any of these things.
Jesus is the Author, the Authority, the Authorizer...He alone.**

He brought these to my attention when He led me firmly to **1 Timothy 2.**

1 Timothy 2:12-14 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to **usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.** For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

WAIT ! THERES MORE !

This Word “usurp” and “Authority” are a compound word that is used only in this scripture. It is interesting and I have been doing some extensive study on this topic for a while now.

Authority (Author-ity) - Greek - Authenteo **G831**- from a compound of **G846** autos, meaning self as in oneself...it is combined with base **109** meaning to breathe out as air blowing and also combined with the word Hentes meaning a worker.

The combined meaning in this scripture is = to act of oneself, to dominate, to usurp authority over.....

I think this speaks for itself but what was even more interesting was the word “**usurp.**” Usurp is **also G831**...and the meaning of usurp is as follows:

USURP

1. Seize and hold the office, rights, powers of another without right or legal authority. To take possession by force.
2. To take arrogantly as if by right.
3. To practice usurpation: encroach (with or upon).

Usurpation

The act of usurping; said especially of unlawful or forcible seizure of kingly power. The wrongful intrusion into or unjust exercise of the privileges of any office, franchise, or the like.

To Take Arrogantly Arrogant

Unduly or excessively proud, haughty, overbearing, especially of one’s station, achievements, scorning others. The arrogant person is domineering and assumes more power and authority than are rightly theirs. Treats others as inferior, presumptuous adds insolence and impertinence.

Encroach

To intrude stealthily or gradually upon the possessions or rights of another, trespass, advance beyond proper limits.

This is very difficult for me to put into words. I don't think I have usurped the authority of a man as we might think of it in our "authoritarian" English American Western understanding. But let me try to explain this according to the scripture and God's divine plan.

We do not see any women teaching in the New Testament. Nor do we see women teaching in the Old Testament. We do see certain women in certain positions but not many. The women of the New Testament assisted the men who carried out the Gospel so that they could teach and preach. It is a complicated issue and one that many women do not want to yield themselves to God's Word.

God's Word does not change according to culture nor does it change according to world views. God's Word is God's Word.

I have been blessed to be allowed to see and understand whatever the Lord through His Holy Spirit has imparted to me. My heart has always been to promote the Truth, contend for the Faith, and to encourage all who will listen to search the scriptures for themselves and to draw closer, deeper, and more fully into the presence of the Lord.

You all have the same tools to do this that I have. I wish you could see that. I find myself in much of what I have written on these pages. Jesus called 12 men to start and 70 he sent out in pairs. The wives of Peter and the others are rarely mentioned except for their support and ministering to the leaders of the church which were men. It is the truth.

I Corinthians 11:9 gives us this truth...yet more than truth, it is a divine principle...
Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

Jesus is the Author and the Authority. There is an order that He ordained. The roles and the work have a divine order to produce divine results. Anything outside of this order is "confusion" and God is not a God of confusion but of peace (as we already saw).

I cannot deny that I love teaching. It is an amazing thing to see people understand something they never understood before **BUT I FEEL I SHOULD STOP DOING IT LIVE**

Certainly, if any of you have questions that I can answer or help with, I will always be glad to do that. I will continue to write as the Lord leads and allows and I hope you will use it to help others. I want to follow the Word of God and do what He says and not do what He says not to do. I have much repenting to do. On the next page I will speak of that more and post links from Church Leaders on this topic.

It has become difficult for me “not” to correct when I see or hear things contrary to God’s Word. Please understand, it is not out of a “know it all” attitude but out of a strong desire for truth to be the only thing proclaimed. There is a lot of guess work and supposition out there and I am not “the expert.” Having said that, I apologize to any I have offended and ask for your forgiveness. The Merciful Lord will help me.

I have listened to many well known teachers in the Body of Christ. You will recognize some. Some share the Word out of a balanced teaching with clear understanding and others...well...I am not linking those.

I listened to these because I do not want to be led into error and I truly do not want to lead anyone into error. I hope you will take time to listen. It will explain much more to you and give you a greater understanding of what the will of the Lord is. Each one is good and each has a little different understanding but there is unity and these are men highly respected in the Body of Christ.

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCngP-K-P40>
CALVARY CHAPEL- DAVID ROSALES

2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uolWyghsHxw>
John MacArthur Sermon on 1 Timothy 2:12-15

3. <https://youtu.be/H629bCHRyR4>
Grace Bible Community Church Published on Jul 15, 2012

4. https://www.blueletterbible.org/audio_video/popPlayer.cfm?id=3347&rel=missler_chuck/1Ti

IF THAT DOESN'T GO TO THE AUDIO...GO HERE AND CLICK **1 TIM 2**

https://www.blueletterbible.org/audio_video/missler_chuck/1Ti/1_Timothy_Vintage.cfm

Chuck Missler Media - 1 Timothy - [Vintage]

YOU CAN WATCH IN ANY ORDER YOU PREFER...

I WILL ALSO ADD A COUPLE OF ARTICLES ABOUT THE CHURCH BODY...JUST FUN STUFF

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/faith/the-study-of-god/why-study-god/what-is-the-church>

GOSPEL COALITION

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/what-is-this-thing-called-church/>

I hope you can learn from my mistakes.
You all are greatly loved...by me but more so the Lord has you imprinted on the palms
of His Hands.

I am always open to your questions.
The Lord Bless You and Keep You...
AND I MEAN THAT.
Maranatha !

KEEP LOOKING UP

