

THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
**I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God
IN CHRIST JESUS.**
(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)*

#04-1001

“I Have Come” – 2010

January 1, 2010

As a new year approaches, I ask the Lord for a word for the year, and He has been faithful to answer the cry of my heart.

I do not believe these words are for me alone but are given so that I might encourage others throughout the year with a word from the heart of God. These words can be applied both on the individual and the corporate level, meaning the body of Christ. In case you are not aware of it, the word *corporate* is one of the definitions of the word *body*.

Specifically, I believe the Lord has called me to encourage all who are conquering in this day, the ones that will be counted worthy of His kingdom to reign with Him because they endured to the end (2 Timothy 2:12). We all need encouragement in these days, encouragement to **press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus**. This goal is not about flying off to heaven in the good ol' gospel ship; it is about becoming like our Lord Jesus, which only comes with the first or out-resurrection and the transfiguration into the image of the Celestial One. The conquerors are the first fruits anointed, the new creation in Christ, and the first of mankind to receive celestial, spiritual, glorified, immortal bodies. When we see Him, we will be like Him (1 John 3:2).

The word for each year does not have to be connected with the words for the preceding years; however, it seems that they are, for I see each building upon the other in light of the coming of the kingdom of our Lord. Thus, the significance of the word does not stop when the year ends but continues on into the succeeding years.

I received the words **victory** for 2007, **love** for 2008, and **the wind blows** for 2009. The first two words go hand-in-hand, for *victory* refers to conquering; and we more than conquer, actually overwhelmingly conquer, through love, or, more specifically, through Him (Christ) who loves us (Romans 8:37). **The love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us** (Romans 5:5). This love is what gives us the victory and makes us conquerors, for **love never fails** (1 Corinthians 13:8). Ultimately, the love of God will win the heart of every single person born of the human race **so that God may be all in all new** (1 Corinthians 15:28). With the new creation in view, He who sits on the throne declares: **“Behold, I am making all new!”** (Revelation 21:5). This is the purpose of God.

As for **the wind blows**, I believe it is a prophetic word pointing to what the Lord has begun to do in relation to those born from above that are being invited into His kingdom and glory, again, the conquerors or, we could say, **the Joseph company** (see article #28, January 2010, *The Tenth – The Prophetic Blessing of Joseph*). The conquerors are going to be led in ways that they have never been led before as they are sent out into the world by the spirit of God. When I first reported on this word, I cautioned that, although it was a word for 2009, it, most likely, would be progressively manifested in the years to come until it breaks into its full manifestation with the fulfillment of the feast of Tabernacles. I see this word as transcending time (see issues #03-0901, January 1, 2009, *The Wind Blows*, and #03-0989, August 17, 2009, *Transcend Time. The Deal is Done*).

Now, the word I believe I have been given for 2010 is ***“I have come.”***

Interestingly, this word came on April 25, 2009, which seems to support the word *the wind blows*, and should draw our attention back to the word *victory*.

As with any word that I receive, I believe it must be confirmed by Scripture, the more directly, the better. Upon hearing this word, I immediately thought of Joshua, who is a type of Christ. Joshua or Yeshua is Jesus' Hebrew name, and **Joshua-Yeshua** leading the sons of Israel into their inheritance in the land of promise is a type of **Jesus-Yeshua** leading the many sons of God into their inheritance of glorified bodies. Jesus is the greater Joshua.

(13) When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?" (14) And he said, "No; but I am the commander of the army of the LORD [Yahweh]. Now I have come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped and said to him, "What does my lord say to his servant?" (15) And the commander of the LORD's [Yahweh] army said to Joshua, "Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so. (Joshua 5:13-15 ESV [REB])

Due to their initial refusal to enter Canaan, the sons of Israel were banished to wander in the wilderness for a total of 40 years. Only Caleb and Joshua had the faith to enter the land of milk and honey, as the Lord had promised, in order to receive their inheritance in the land. They truly were conquerors in that day, but they had to suffer, along with the rest of the Israelites during their long sojourn as *the ecclesia in the wilderness* (Acts 7:38). Caleb and Joshua also were types of the barley company in the midst of the wheat company. They both wandered together as they waited for God's appointed time.

The same picture can be seen in our day as the conquerors, the barley company, have been in the wilderness with the rest of the church, the wheat company. Barley is the first grain to be harvested, and so it will be with the conquerors, when the appointed time arrives. If you are one who longs for your inheritance of an immortal, glorified, spiritual, and celestial body in the image of Christ, and you have the faith to endure to the end of this age, then, most likely, you are counted among the barley. However, the good news is that the wheat must be harvested eventually, even if it is after the barley harvest.

Now, the commander of the army of Yahweh did not appear to Joshua until the sons of Israel had crossed the Jordan, the second generation had been circumcised, the entire company had celebrated Passover, and all had eaten from the land of Canaan. It was after these things that Joshua was by Jericho and the Lord appeared to him with sword drawn and announced: **"Now I have come."**

Of course, the antitype of this typological picture is discovered with Christians who are much like the second generation, only they have applied the blood (Passover) on the door of hearts that have been circumcised (Colossians 2:11). Further, they have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, having received an earnest of the spirit, and having tasted of the heavenly gift, the powers of the age to come, and the kindness of the Lord (2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5; Ephesians 1:14; Hebrews 6:4, 5; 1 Peter 2:3).

But the key to understanding this word in light of the year 2010 is discovered in Jericho. The Lord appeared to Joshua as he was by Jericho, prior to its fall. It was then that the Lord told Joshua that He had given him the city and told him how to go about conquering it.

Today, our Jericho is Mystery Babylon. Just as Joshua and company had to circle Jericho once a day for seven days and then seven times on the seventh day, so we read in the Revelation of the judgment of Mystery Babylon administered in several series of sevens.

Mystery Babylon must fall for the conquerors to receive their true inheritance and the kingdom of our Lord to begin to be established among the nations.

Dear brethren, the good news is that Mystery Babylon is under the judgment of God, and the Lord has come to finish the job. I don't know exactly when or how, but you can be assured that its fall is coming soon, and we need to hear what the spirit is saying to us in these days so that we are moved by the spirit-wind of God. The finish line is in view, so let us press on toward the goal for the prize.

"I have come!" Our Yeshua has come, and soon He will manifest Himself to His conquerors. We are about to enter onto holy ground in a glorious way. May we be counted worthy in that day!