

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)

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Collection of Thoughts to Close Out 2014

As 2014 is about to roll over into 2015, I have considered what to write to sum up the year. The final issue, *America – Time to Wake Up!* (TUC #08-1430), offers some views on America, so I will let that stand alone. Here is the link: <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/tuc/tuc627.pdf> I will start by commenting on some things I have written about throughout the year, especially at the beginning of 2014.

Tumult

The word I was given for the year was: "***Tumult is coming.***" I wrote:

Tumult is coming is an uproar over the fall of the world system that has the many waters in bondage to its corruption and immorality and greed. As our present Babylonian system begins to fall, those who thrived in this system, even ran it at the expense of the many, will mourn for their great loss. Everything that can be shaken will be shaken. But rejoice, for we receive a Kingdom that cannot be shaken. **God's King is coming on the heels of tumult!** It may take another seven years or it may happen this year; be assured, it is coming to the glory of God.

This word still stands. Surely, depending on where one lives in the world, there has been tumult. America has seen its share of it. But what we have not seen yet is what could be considered a real shaking of the Babylonian system. There are many ominous reports out there that would indicate that all is not well in the land of Oz. But, what is the truth? Obviously, those who are driving the system are doing everything they can to preserve it and even make it thrive, or make it appear that it is thriving, even though it is all smoke and mirrors. God has an appointed time and it shall be done on time, no matter what man might try to do to thwart it.

After Your Heart in Tumult

There was another word along with this one about tumult is coming. The Lord spoke personally to me that He was *and* is after my heart in tumult. I have seen tumult on an individual level, especially as it relates to so-called *church life* or *fellowship*. Things that I once held about the church have been smashed on the rocks of tradition and false perceptions. However, here is the good news; through it all, the Lord has been after my heart, and I trust He has gotten it in greater measure. He's not done, and I can trust He will continue until that Day! I am sure that many of you have had similar experiences with the Lord this year. If you are not sure He is truly pursuing you, I pray that the Lord will reveal to you how much He loves you and that He is truly after your heart. Tumult, no matter on what level or with what intensity, is designed to drive us back to the Lord and His love. Love will not fail!

Blood Moons

So far, the blood moons are like so many other events that have been surrounded with all sorts of dire and ominous warnings, the most recent one being the Mayan calendar and 2012. Well, that has come and gone and the world still stands. Of course, there are two more blood moons to come, along with solar eclipses, so we will have to wait to see what signs, if any, will manifest. I hold to the word the Father gave me when I inquired of the meaning of the Blood Moons. He said: "**I Love You!**" Now, this we can hold to regardless of what occurs on earth. **God is love**, and the Blood Moons are a sign of His love for all. Why? Because these moons are like bookends with Passover on one end and Tabernacles on the other! These are signs of the first and second work of Christ, or, if

you will, His first coming and His second coming. In Passover and Tabernacles, we learn of the love of God through the Son of His love, not only for His people in this age but for all people of all ages, past, present, and future. If this is new to you, see this link: *Blood Moons*: <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/tuc/tuc610.pdf>

Seven-Year Cycles

The subject of 7-year cycles that I have mentioned in several of my writings is a fascinating topic for me, and it seems fascinating to a lot of others, as well. I continue to hold to what I posted on September 14, 2014.

When I write of a period from 2014-2015, I am referring to the Hebrew year that commences with Tishri 1 of the first year and ends with Elul 29 or the day before Tishri 1 of the end year. The bottom-line is this: With the beginning of the 21st century, I believe the world and the church entered into a 21-year cycle divided into three 7-year periods running from 2000-2001 to 2007-2008 to 2014-2015 to 2021-2022. The previous 7-year periods have been punctuated with major world events, and I believe we will see this same pattern appear September 2014 to September 2015, with greater intensity of events, both good and bad, during these next 7 years leading up to Tishri 1 of 2021. We are entering into what could be the most significant period of world and church history. Knowing something of the exact details of what will transpire would be nice, but it is far more important to take heed, keep on the alert. **Watch!** We need to be like the five wise virgins who had extra oil in their lamps. **Behold the Bridegroom! Come out to meet Him!**

To add to this, I have wondered if, as the Lord's people, we are going to experience Tabernacles in some measure each year over the next seven years that started with Tabernacles, October 9, 2014. We wait to see if this is so.

Now, I have not written on the next two items, but they are matters that seem quite germane to our day—partial blindness and a famine of the word, which go hand-in-hand with each other. I, along with others, have wondered why it is that so many of the Lord's people are blind to God's ultimate purpose for all mankind and creation and His plan to achieve it. Even when this great truth is presented to them, they cannot grasp the greatness of God's love for ALL. Part of the reason is the tradition of men and fear of breaking away from it. But why is it that some grasp it immediately, and others either do not get it or, worse, run from it?

Partial Blindness

When He walked this earth nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus spoke in parables and, quoting Isaiah 6:9-10, told His disciples that the people see but do not perceive and hear but do not understand (Matthew 13:14-15). In a sense, they were blind and deaf. In Romans 11:25, Paul picked up Jesus' theme by stating **blindness in part is happening to Israel until the fullness of the nations comes in**. Paul was referring to Israel, not the Jews. If you have read any of my recent material, you will know what this means. This very same condition seems to be prevalent in our day, just as it was in the day Jesus appeared to His people back then. The Lord's people seem to have a partial blindness, meaning they see Jesus as the Christ and the fundamentals associated with this (the blood, sin, etc.), but they are blind to God's ultimate purpose and plan. They just don't perceive, and many don't even care to try. Things are not much different in our day than they were in Jesus' day in Judea. This leads to the last item.

Famine of the Word

I suggest that *one* of the reasons for the partial blindness is because we are living in a day of the famine of the word. **"Behold, days are coming," declares the Lord GOD, "When I will send a famine on the land, not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, but rather for hearing the words of the LORD** (Amos 8:11). In spite of all the nearly innumerable so-called *Christian messages* being pumped throughout every technological media known to man, it would appear that we are living in these days. Putting the Lord's name on men's words does not make them the Lord's words. Countless numbers of messages in the name of Christ do not make them the words of the Lord. The famine is not in volume; it is in hearing what the Lord is saying in the midst of it. As I have stressed many times, who is standing in the council of the Lord and perceiving His word? I leave you with the word of the Lord: **"But if they had stood in My council, then they would have announced My words to My people, and would have turned them back from their evil way and from the evil of their deeds"** (Jeremiah 23:22).