

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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The Awakening

The last issue ended with the exhortation that it is time to wake up. At the end of 2014, I published an issue titled *America – Time to Wake Up*. Here is the link: <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/tuc/tuc627.pdf> After rereading it, I continue to stand by it as a calling for the nation, as well as the visible church, to wake up. Since then, on many occasions, the Lord has spoken the word *awake* to my heart. It became revelation to me when I was recently led to Psalm 57.8 where David proclaims: ***Awake, my glory!*** But to explain this, we need to turn to Paul.

In Galatians, Paul, the apostle of the nations, shared some of his testimony when Jesus broke into his life as he traveled to Damascus to search out and persecute those of the Way. There should be no doubt that the risen Christ broke into his life. He had no time to walk an aisle, pray a sinner's prayer, ask Jesus into his heart, or any of the many things preached to people telling them how to "get saved." Paul had something like scales on his eyes after the glorious appearance of Jesus. He was literally blind for a short period, but this was also symbolic of how blind Saul (*aka* Paul) had been all his religious life as a Jew. He could see with his natural eyes, but he was blind in his spiritual eyes. This is the true condition of most of mankind, especially of the religious that hold to physical form over spirit-life. Paul made a remarkable statement that has far-reaching meaning.

But when God was pleased, He having separated me from my mother's belly, and having called me through His grace, Isa. 49:1 to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the nations.... (Galatians 1.15-16a LITV)

Quite remarkably, God revealed to Paul that His Son was *in* him. He did not state that God revealed His Son *to* him, as a few translations state. Of course, His Son was revealed to Paul, but the revelation was far greater than that. The Jews were never taught nor had any expectation that the Messiah would actually take up residence in them. This must have been earth-shattering to Paul. Again, no place in Paul's epistles does he ever testify that he asked Jesus into his heart. This was an act of the will of God and not one of the will of man. Paul testified: **For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but by a revelation of Jesus Christ ... I did not confer with flesh and blood** (Galatians 1.12, 16). In another epistle, he says: **It does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy** (Romans 9.16). Simply, it is God's doing!

By Paul's own testimony, first he was set apart in his mother's womb; then at an early age (some estimate around 30 years of age) but nevertheless some years after his birth, God revealed that His Son was in Paul. The question is: **When was the Son placed in Paul?** Was it as he was blinded by glory, or later when he began to contemplate and pray over what had happened to him, or at some point prior to all this? Paul does not tell us directly, but as I sought for an answer, I was led to Isaiah and began to see that the answer is far-reaching.

Thus says the El, Yahweh Elohim, Creator of the heavens, Who stretched them out, Who stamped the earth and its offspring, Who gives breath to the people upon it, and spirit to those going in it.... (Isaiah 42.5 CLV)

I believe this is the Lord Jesus speaking, for He is God's channel of life to all mankind. In Him are all things created, which means He is the One Who gives both breath (i.e., life) and spirit to all who walk on His earth. Since all things come from God and **God is spirit**, the spirit given to all mankind must be of God's spirit, meaning a measure of God's *essence* is given to all mankind. This essence must be the very Spirit of the Lord, the Son of God. When we are given breath or life, the Son of God also takes up residence in all of us as a seed, the seed of God. For most it lays dormant, hidden within man, waiting to come alive or, more specifically, to be awakened from sleep by the Holy Spirit.

Most of mankind is blinded by the spirit of the world to this truth, just as Saul was blinded by his religion, and many will remain this way until the consummation of the ages when all will see and God the Father will manifest as **the All in All**. But the evidence of this truth is within everyone and deep down they know it (Romans 1.19), for the Son is the evidence within them. Mankind is asleep to its true identity. Man (generically) has been living with scales on his eyes that blinds him to the truth of not only the Son but of the Son in all of us; the Creator of all who has put His spirit in man. We are all born with the Son of God in us, which is in seed form, but for most, this seed remains dormant or asleep an entire lifetime on earth. It is the gift of God that was set before the foundation of the world. Thus, salvation is simply an awakening from sleep to the fact that deliverance has already been wrought in God's Son. In God's timing, we are awakened from this sleep, but each in our own order (1 Corinthians 15.23). One day, all of mankind will be awakened to this truth. But, for the Lord's people, it is already the hour to awaken from sleep.

Revelation must have come to Paul that the Son was in him while in his mother's womb, and it took 30 years for his eyes to be opened by the Lord and enlightened to this truth. Today, the scales of blindness are removed by the Holy Spirit only for the believers, the ones given the faith of the Son to believe. When we are awakened, this seed begins to grow as we receive more revelation of the Son of God within us until we are fully conformed to His image through resurrection and/or transfiguration. As Paul wrote: **When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory** (Colossians 3.4). This leads to David who wrote Psalm 57, based on when he fled from Saul in the cave. In verse 8, David proclaimed: **Awake, my glory! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.** When I was led to this verse and saw *awake, my glory*, it immediately became *rhema* to me. **Christ in you, the expectation of glory.** We not only need the scales removed to see Christ in us but also to see His glory in us. Paul intimates this when he tells us that we have a treasure in these earthen vessels (2 Corinthians 4.7). **For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ** (2 Corinthians 4.6). Christ in glory is the treasure in us, and this treasure joins us with the risen Christ seated on high in glory where we are seated with Him, possessing every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies. O, how we need to be awakened to this glorious truth and be like Paul: *When it pleased God to reveal His Son in me*. It is God's pleasure to reveal His Son in those given the faith of the Son to believe.

In two places, Paul calls for believers to awaken from sleep: **Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed** (Romans 13.11). **For this reason, it says, "Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you"** (Ephesians 5.14). Contextually, these verses pertain to our walk in Christ, a walk in light and in love that puts off all darkness (deeds from the lust of the flesh). It is putting on Christ, meaning taking up Christ's character in our behavior as we walk by the Spirit. Paul writes of full salvation that progressively grows until we are fully manifested with Him in glory when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, the **Day of Christ**. Thus, salvation is awaking to the truth of Christ in us. We all start asleep to this truth, and we need to be awakened by the Holy Spirit given to us. When we are no longer asleep, we are to grow in this truth until we are fully conformed to His image.

We have been asleep for far too long to the truth that God's Son is in us and, most of all, what this truly means. **It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me** (Galatians 2.20). Perhaps you have read this verse many times and perhaps you have heard teaching on it, but has its import registered in your spirit, has it dawned in your heart? Is it growing into the dawn of the new day? Do you live by this life within? It is this life that gives us the ability and means and strength to walk in light and in love. Time to wake up!

To fully understand the depths of this truth, we need to see who Jesus truly is and what He is not only to us but to all mankind. This is why I was led to write an article (#65) titled **Who Are You, Lord?** If you haven't read it, I encourage you, even plead with you, to do so. Here is the link: <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/art/art65.pdf>

Dear people of God, there is an **Awakening** coming. It is what the Lord revealed to me as **the Anointing**. It is coming and, when it does, all remaining scales will fall off of His called and chosen ones as they see and experience the greatness and the depths of the Son in them, and they are finally transfigured into His glorious image, complete in Christ as sons of God in glory. **The dawn of a new day is coming. The Christ in us will awaken the dawn. Arise, shine! Awake, my glory!**