



WATCHMAN'S TRUMPET



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FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

Hello,

I welcome you to this new month and present to you March 2025 edition of Watchman's Trumpet. The theme of this month's edition is "The Bread of Life".

Christ's teaching on our theme revolves around three basic facts: first, that He is the bread that will impart eternal life, secondly, that He came down from heaven and finally, that those who want to live forever must feed on Him.

Eternal life comes by believing in Christ and feeding on Him as one feeds on physical bread. Feeding on Christ means our spirit will do to teachings about Christ what our body and more precisely our digestive system does to physical food. There are systems, mechanisms and processes that take up physical nourishment and transfer it into our body, breaking it down, transforming it and making its products available to our cells and tissues in such a way that will facilitate holistic growth and development. These are essentially physical.

In the same way, there are spiritual systems, mechanisms and processes organized, coordinated and administered by the Holy Spirit that brings the word of God and teachings of Christ into our spirit (inner) man; systems that processes, transforms and applies our knowledge and understanding of the person of Christ in such a way that facilitates holistic spiritual growth and development in our life. Holistic spiritual growth and development are those changes that makes us epitomes and enviable models of what Christ is and

what it means to be Christ-like in aspirations, desires and goals as well as in achievement and productivity. This is what it means to feed on Christ.

The admonition of Christ to the multitude that followed Him in our lead story from John six is for all men today "... don't be so concerned about perishable things like food. Spend your energy seeking the eternal life that the Son of man can give you. For God the Father has given me the seal of His approval" John 6:27(NLT). Jesus is under God's mandate to meet the needs of all who follow Him consistently and serve Him here in the world; and bring them to heaven eventually John 6;37-39. Our responsibility to make this happen in our life is evident in the significance of Christ's metaphorical use of bread and physical nourishment in John chapter six. Sinners must come to Christ and listen to His word to be saved. Both new and old believers are to daily make themselves available to be taught, fashioned and modelled to conform to the image of Christ. This is God-ordained pathway to meet all our needs and give us eternal satisfaction and glory. My prayer is that all your needs will be met by the Lord and eternal satisfaction will be yours as you read this edition of Watchman's Trumpet in Jesus name. Welcome!

SUPERNATURAL MULTIPLICATION OF FOOD AT BETHSAIDA

"There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?"



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And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. When they were filled, he said unto His disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten". John 6:9-13

We shall consider two subtopics:

1. Feeding of multitude with physical bread
2. Christ's sufficiency to meet men's needs

1. Feeding of multitude with physical bread

“Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.”

John 6:13

Our text described the feeding of 5,000 in Bethsaida mountain range. Capernaum which for considerable time was the base or headquarters of our Lord's ministry lies west of Galilee sea's northern edge while Bethsaida lies on the East. So this journey took Him to the region of Bethsaida behind which there was a mountain range. This mountain range served as His pulpit as He preached to multitudes from this region attracted to Him by the miracles He performed Luke 9:10-17. Phillip, Peter and Andrew are native of Bethsaida John 1:44, 12:20-22. Hence, when it was getting dark and the people were obviously fatigued and hungry, Jesus asked Philip where food can be purchased to feed the multitude Mark 6:35-37, Mathew 15:15-16. Some of them even suggested that Jesus should dismiss the multitude so that they can go into surrounding villages and towns to buy food and take care of themselves. Jesus said “No”. A search was then made for what was available. Phillip in remarked that a huge amount of money about 200 pence (equivalent of eight months average daily wage) was insufficient to feed them. Andrew, Simon Peter's brother reported that a boy brought a lunch pack made up of five small barley loaves and two small fish but it will not impact on the feeding effort in any significant way.

The evangelist writer remarked that the question Jesus posed to Philip was a test because the Lord himself knew what He would do. The writer also remarked that this event occurred

when Passover was near. Jesus instructed his disciples to put the multitude into sitting arrangements that will make serving them easy. They sat in groups of fifties and hundreds Mark 7:39-40 and their total number was 5,000 not counting women and children. Jesus took the provisions, gave thanks to God for it; He broke them and handed them to His disciple who served the people. All of them ate and were satisfied. Twelve baskets of remnants were gathered after they had eaten in accordance with Lord's commandment who told them that nothing should be allowed to waste. The men who witnessed and benefited from this miracle affirmed that Jesus was the prophet (Genesis 49:10, Deuteronomy 18:15, 18) whom God promise to send to them-Messiah the Prince. So they wanted to take Him by force and make Him King but Jesus departed from them and went up into the nearby mountain - to escape these men's distraction and also to pray Mathew 14:23



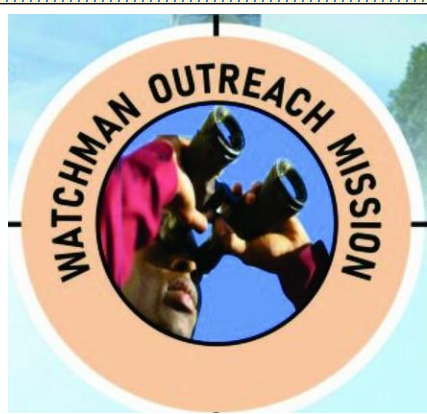
2. Christ's sufficiency to meet men's needs

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.” Psalm 23:1

The central lesson from this story is Christ's sufficiency to meet every areas of needs in human life and His interest in doing so. He is not only interested in nourishing us spiritually and healing our sickness. He loves to meet our physical needs too. He cares that we have access to basic necessities of life - food, clothing and shelter. As it was then, if we trust Him today and call upon Him, He will meet our needs. We also find in the account the necessity of faith manifestation by those who support the



Lord's effort to meet men's needs like ministers and church workers. As God is using us to meet people's spiritual need of salvation and spiritual growth, we should depend upon Him to make resources available to us to help meet their physical needs as well. We should also observe that the bread broken by Christ multiplied as the disciples work in the path of obedience. The little in their hands multiplied as they served the people. We have through these disciples' obedience and multiplication of the bread as they serve a divine blueprint for divine increase, enlargement and sufficiency. It is as we distribute the quantity big or small that God has given us or that we hold in stock with faith in God and in obedience to His word that it becomes sufficient to meet the needs of the people to whom He has sent us. As we have come to the Lord, both leaders and the led in God's kingdom should trust God to meet every area of needs in our lives. He will (Philippians 4:19). The Lord's instruction that the remnant should be gathered together and stored proved His displeasure at wastages and prodigious lives. Whether in connection with grace or goods, it is wrong to injure our health or shorten our lives with divine provisions and blessings. His retirement to a mountain when they wanted to make Him king was to dodge their abuse of His calling, commission and purpose by raising a revolt against Herod's kingship and Roman imperialism. It also clearly revealed that Jesus will not participate in coup d'état or support forceful removal of government. This is an important lesson for worldly men and carnal brethren today. We are commanded in the scripture to do violence to no man and do nothing by strife or vain glory Philippians 2:3.



ABOUT WATCHMAN OUTREACH MISSION

Watchman Outreach Mission as envisioned fundamentally comprises of men and women of faith who watch over one another and together watch for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Next to this primary assignment is an equally important responsibility of bringing others into the same state of watchfulness and readiness as the coming of the Lord draws near. Ours is a trans-ministerial, trans-denominational mission. Our core values include expository teaching, prayer and counselling. We train in principles and practice of Christian discipleship and equip for effective Kingdom Service.

The Lord Jesus Christ in one of His parable said “*While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept*” **Mathew 25:5**. Watchman Outreach Mission is a response of faith to this and similar warnings about events in the last days. Our response is based on the premise that prophecies, visions and revelations about the future such as the one documented in the Lord’s parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins are sign-posts by which men are warned to keep vigil to avoid disastrous end. We serve to wake up the church and men everywhere to remain alert and watch for the Lord’s return.

The Mission, based in Ibadan, Nigeria, was launched in 2009 and its maiden outing took place on the 20th November of the same year. On that day, we partnered with All Nations Evangelical Ministry (ANEM), Akobo, Ibadan for Evangelistic and Medical Mission Outreach to Idi - Ose Village on Arulogun - Olorunda Road in Lagelu Local Government, Ibadan.

In the years that followed we networked with churches and other Christian groups too to implement our mandate which include conducting gospel outreaches, discipleship training for new converts, organizing and facilitating workers and ministerial training, conducting administrative reviews in churches and ministries, writing of proposals for reforms and church growth strategies that can enhance social cohesion, improve church finances and foster overall development, unity and growth of such ministries; monitoring and/or supervision of the implementation of such reforms and strategies.

Some of these Christian groups and ministries include with Christ Apostolic Church, Oke - Ife in Ajangboju, Ibadan, Nigerian Military Christian Fellowship, Adekunle Fajuyi Cantonment Chapter in Oyo - State Nigeria, Christ Gospel Mission International, Light of Jesus Evangelistic Ministry with branches in different cities in South Western Nigeria, and Ark of Salvation Church of Christ (ASCC) with headquarters at Molade, Monatan Ibadan.

Till date, although partnered ministries change from time to time depending on the leading we receive from the Lord, we remain committed to our main purpose and vision; that of service to the church and in the world to wake up men everywhere and encourage them to remain alert and watch for the Lord’s return. Through our activities, souls had been saved, believers edified and church workers’ spiritual growth and development enhanced, all to the glory of God.

WATCHMAN PRAYER HOUR



Prayer Points - March 2025

1. Thank God for the possibility of satisfaction and eternal glory that comes through Christ
2. Pray for grace to prioritize relationship with God through Christ and consistent study of His words
3. Pray against anxieties and worries over material possessions and accumulation of material wealth; pray for grace to seek first the kingdom of God
4. Pray for increasing hunger and thirst for the things that truly satisfies
5. Pray for continuous transformation into Christ’s image by the power of His words
6. Pray that God will grant us access to divine provisions and spiritual resources that will totally and completely satisfy our physical, spiritual and eternal needs

“ men ought always to pray, and not to faint;” Luke 18:1

May the Lord hear and answer all our prayers - AMEN!

Watchman Prayer Hour holds every Saturday from 10.30am - 12.00MD. We invite you to join us at our office at Amazing Grace House, Joy Estate, Olorunda -Abaa, Ibadan . Oyo - State. Follow us on any of our social media platforms and send your inquiries or prayer requests to any of our digital addresses.

TEACHING ON INADEQUACY OF PHYSICAL NOURISHMENT

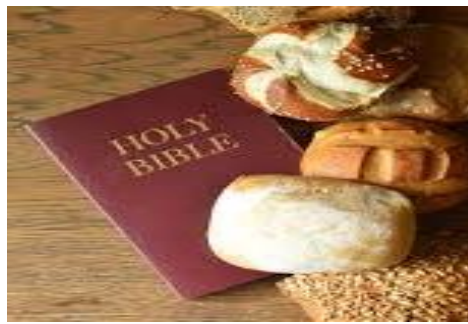
“And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither? Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. “Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.” John 6:25-27

1. Men’s desire to perpetuate feeding program
2. Misplaced priority by self-indulgent people

1. Men’s desire to perpetuate feeding program

“And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither? Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.” John 6:25-26

On the following day, the crowd that Jesus fed gathered together again in the same place where the feeding took place looking for Jesus and His disciples. They probably saw Jesus go up into the mountain in that vicinity while His disciple took the only ship available then and crossed over to the other side. Although Tiberian ship also use to dock in that shore. So when they couldn’t find Jesus and His disciples they also took to the sea, crossed to the western side and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found Him they asked Him when He came there. Jesus who knew the heart of all men told them



that He knew they were searching for Him so that the free feeding programme can continue and not because of anything spiritual or eternal. He warned them not to invest efforts or energy in quest for feeding programme and food that will not last beyond the shores of earthly life, but that which will prepare them and preserve in them the prospect of everlasting life. This kind of food He would give to them. He is the one ordained and assigned by God to give such. They replied the Lord that they are eager to invest their efforts in search for bread that will give everlasting life. They are ready to work for God and that the Lord should show them how. The Lord then told them that God’s work is to believe in the one He has sent. They told Him to show them some signs and perform some miracles to prove that He was God-sent. Probably still thinking of the free feeding of the previous day, they taunted Him by stating that their forefathers ate Manna in the desert, the scriptures stated the he gave them bread from heaven to eat, probably referring to Moses. Jesus told them that the feeding in the wilderness was not by Moses but from God. Besides, Manna was not the true bread from heaven. He himself is the bread of God sent from heaven. He himself is the bread of God sent from heaven to give life to the world. They requested that from that time onward He should feed them with this bread (from heaven). They obvious thought it was something physical. Jesus went further to inform them that He is the bread of life and went into detail of how and why this is so including what God expects from them.

2. Misplaced priority by self-indulgent people

“When the people therefore saw that

Jesus was not there, neither his disciples, they also took shipping, and came to Capernaum, seeking for Jesus.” John 6:24

It is still a common flaw in people’s life today that they invest more time and effort in keeping body and soul together than in subjects of spiritual and eternal significance. It is disheartening that even after hours that Jesus has tried avoiding them they still would not abandon their project of making a meal ticket out of Jesus or making Him a leader that will serve them free meals. The day after His multiplication of bread, when they could not find him in Bethsaida region, they crossed over to the western side and came to meet Him in the Synagogue at Capernaum where He was teaching and joined the congregation. It never occurred to them that the kind of feeding that they had on the previous day was circumstances-induced. It was meant to ignite saving faith in them and prepare them for heaven. They thought and planned that it would be regular so as to excuse them from profitable labour and make them live lazy and self-indulgent lives. Every short cut to prosperity and many get rich quick programmes that comes into town have the same principle behind response to it; principles of greed and laziness. God ordained that men would earn their living as and not live as parasites on others 2Thessalonians 3:6-12. These people’s passionate quest for physical food blocked their mind from understanding the truth about spiritual food that Jesus was teaching. We learn here that quest for material wealth, what to eat and drink if not managed with great sense of responsibility and moderation could hinder our spiritual progress. Physical food from crops will do no more than sustain the physical body. One day, a man’s spirit will leave his body behind; what will happen to him if he goes into eternity unprepared? Neglect of spiritual nourishment is a sure way to such end.

CONFUSED BY CARNALITY, OFFENDED BY TRUTH

“I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, how can this man give us his flesh to eat? Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, this is an hard saying; who can hear it?”

John 6:51-52, 60

We shall consider two subtopics:

1. Confusion of the carnally-minded
2. Disciples offended by difficult truth

1. Confusion of the carnally-minded

*“Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed. Then said they unto him, what shall we do, that we might work the works of God?”***John 6:27-28**

At some point in the conversation or teaching they realized their need for food that endures but they want to work for it. Jesus told them that the work that meets God’s requirement, approval and acceptance is to accept Christ as their Messiah, Lord and Savior and abide continuously in Him. In His teaching at Capernaum synagogue Jesus has been able to convince His audience most of whom came all the way from Bethsaida region and towns and villages in the eastern coast of the Sea of Galilee that they need more



of bread that guarantees continuous life. They then express the desire that He should give them this bread and feed them continuously with it. Jesus then went into elaborate expository teaching on what the bread of life meant, how they can access it and feed on it and what the bread will do for them. Jesus told them that He is that bread came from heaven to give life to the world. God sent Him to them to give them everlasting life. This everlasting life He gives by the sacrifice of Himself so that they can feed on Him; feed on His flesh and drink His blood, by so doing, all those who receive Him and feed on Him, fulfilling His Father’s will and believes in Him will have their hunger and thirst for life, life of God, abundant and everlasting life satisfied. Thus they would be preserved from being lost, driven away or rejected from fellowship with God and God’s kingdom on earth and eventually in eternity; they will have the privilege of being raised from the dead on the last day and they will live eternally with Christ and with God.

This is the will of God, the purpose why He sent Jesus to the world and why Jesus Himself surrendered to the ordeals of the cross and crucifixion. They grudgingly faulted His argument that He is as human as any of them, born in the same way and that they knew His father and mother, so how can He claim to be bread that they would eat and that He came from heaven? Jesus responded by telling them that none of them has ever physically seen God but He has and secondly that God the Father Himself was actively involved in making men come to Him. He does so by showing them their problem or source of their problem and directing them to

Christ to seek solution. In that way God and Jesus worked together to save men and keep them saved.

2. Disciples offended by difficult truth

*“Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, this is an hard saying; who can hear it? When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, doth this offend you?”***John 6:60-61**

Even the disciples of Jesus who heard this teaching were offended and confused. They referred to the teaching as a hard nut, difficult to crack. They stated that it is a hard teaching difficult to accept. The Lord queried why they are offended especially when more surprises are still on the way. They will someday in the future see Him physically ascend to heaven where He came from. What will they do? They should have understood that His teachings are inspired and spiritual in content and scope. They are to impart spiritual life. It is the Spirit that gives life, the flesh counts for nothing (John 6:63). He told them that He knew that even among them, there are some who are unconverted and does not fully trust Him or faithfully follow Him. He stated this because He knew from the beginning which of them will betray Him. He concluded by restating an earlier fact that no one can come to Him except such is enabled by God the Father. Salvation is by grace through faith. It is God’s grace made available to us and the influence of His Spirit that enables us to find Christ when we did and become converted.

We learn here that our prejudice against ministers, our knowledge of who they are by natural birth or relationship can hinder us from being blessed by their messages; the same with our sense of value whether focused on material things or on eternally enduring things. Secondly, those who find Christ do so because they are enabled by God and His grace.

PARTAKING IN THE BREAD THAT GIVES LIFE

"I am that bread of life. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." John 6:48, 50-51

We shall consider three subtopics:

1. Personification of bread and nourishment
2. The broken sacrificed bread
3. Partaking in Christ's sacrifice



1. Personification of bread and nourishment

"For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world." John 6:33

Summarized, the whole context of the teaching, was addressed to a people who wanted to perpetuate physical free (miraculous) feeding programme, seeking opportunities for self-indulgence, idleness and laziness. Jesus wanted them to remember that their forefathers lived like that in the wilderness and perished.



They lived by bread alone. They neglected to listen to God's word and obey it consistently. They suffered severely and paid for it. But if they will accept Him, believe in Him, listen to His teachings, rely on it and consistently obey Him, remaining in intimate relationship with Him till the end of their lives, such relationship likened to the same connection and significance of physical food to the physical body, they shall live forever. The personification of bread or food and its use to describe our attention to God, to Christ and to His word are emphasized both in the Old Testament and New Testament Jeremiah 15:16 *"Thy words were found and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart; for I am called by thy name O Lord God of Hosts"*. Other passages include Ezekiel 3:1-3, Rev 10:9. God promised to give His people pastors that will feed them with His words Jeremiah 3:15. Consistent with this perspective is Peter's and Paul's counsel to church leaders to feed the flock of God 1 Peter 5:1-4 Acts 20:28, Hebrews 5:12-14. The personification of bread was not only done by Jesus in His teaching, Paul used the same concerning the church and her many members 1 Corinthians 10:27. Jesus did not and could not have been referring to His literal physical, body flesh and blood. In the scriptures and throughout human history, cannibalism - the eating of human flesh is repulsive and viewed in negative light

It is horrific, a sign of God's abandonment, backsliding and godlessness. It is a consequence of divine displeasure and judgment (2 Kings 6:28-30, Leviticus 26:28-29) Deuteronomy 28:52-53, 58 and direct result of enemy oppression. Drinking of human blood was a prohibited Genesis 9:4, Leviticus 17:10-14. Secondly, Jesus' physical body, flesh and blood was never made available for anyone to eat. He was crucified, His corpse laid briefly in the grave, He rose on the 3rd day, ascended later into heaven and took His literal physical body with Him to Heaven.



Even if men eat Jesus literal body or drink His blood, Jesus Himself stated that it will in no way make them Christians or enhance their spiritual life or relationship with Him. Cannibalism will actually cut men off from God and from Christ. It will not intensify their connection with Him or relationship with Him; such practice is evidence that they are disobedient, had backslid and had become abandoned by God.

"For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread"

1 Corinthians 10:17



2. The broken sacrificed bread

“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.” Mathew 26:26

The true meaning of the teachings of Christ on the bread of life or His being the bread of life is plainly embedded in the sermon. They would have got the message and benefitted from the lessons if they had been paying close attention, if they had nursed no personal grudge and prejudice against Him because of the knowledge of who He is by natural birth and if their hearts have not been trapped down to mundane things; and to nourishment by physical bread. John 6:51, 53 provided clear keys by which all that Jesus taught on the bread of life could be deciphered. He told them clearly that the flesh - His flesh that He would give, the bread - the bread of life is His life that He would sacrifice for the sins of the world. This therefore implies that Christ's invitation for men to come and feed on Him is an invitation to come and partake in the blessings and benefits of His sacrifice. He is still saying the same thing today. In John 6:63 He stated that His teachings should be analyzed, accepted and connected to at spiritual level. Understood from the perspective of the flesh, they will

not profit. In other words, feeding on His physical body and flesh or drinking His physical blood makes no sense and would confer no advantage or profit. So we must understand and interpret these teaching as subject contents or curriculum that refers to spiritual experiences. Actually in verses 35-36 and 40 He talks about coming to Him and believing on Him as experiences which confers everlasting life. By deductive reasoning, this is synonymous with eating the flesh of Christ and drinking His blood.



3. Partaking in Christ's sacrifice

“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?” 1 Corinthians 10:16

We partake in Christ's flesh and blood when we feed on His word and pattern our life after His teachings John 6:63. The life of Christ comes into us as we internalize His messages, doctrines and teachings John 5:24 *“Verily, verily I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me hath everlasting life, he shall not come into condemnation but is passed from death unto life”*. We partake in Christ's flesh and blood when we become part of His church described as His body Romans 5:5, 1 Corinthians 10:17.



“For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church; for we are members or His body, of His flesh, and of His bones”. Ephesians 5:29, 30. We partake in Christ's flesh and blood when we have and maintain very intimate relationship with Him John 6:56-57, John 17:20-23. We are defined by what we eat. Our food contains the building blocks for our cells and tissues. In the same way, receiving Christ, influence of His Spirit within us fashions our life into His likeness and image. We become more and more like Christ in all that we do. Just like physical food sustains us physically, relationship with Christ sustains us spiritually. Separation from Him leads to spiritual death and separation from God (John 15:4-7) in the same way that failure to eat physically results in physical death. Partaking in Christ entails having His life in us Colossians 1:28. He in us is our hope of glory.



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Peter Marshall was born on May 27, 1902 in Coatbridge, North Lanarkshire, Scotland, a poverty-stricken coal-mining community, where he was reared by his mother and stepfather. From 1916-1921 he studied electrical engineering at Coatbridge Technical School. He enrolled in evening classes to study for the ministry, while working in the mines by day, but his progress was slow. In 1927, a cousin offered to pay Peter's way to the U.S., where he could receive proper ministerial training. He graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary in 1931. He was called to pastor the First Presbyterian Church, a small, rural church in Covington, Georgia. After a brief pastorate, Marshall accepted a call to Atlanta's Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1933. In Atlanta, he met his future wife, Catherine Wood, then a student at Agnes Scott College. They married on November 4, 1936, and had one son, Peter John Marshall on January 21, 1940. In 1937, Marshall became pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. God mightily grew the ministry. As the church grew, his name became known throughout the city. Peter, however, despised the popularity. So much did he fear people coming to simply hear his preaching that he posted the following statement in the church bulletin:

"This minister thinks of the assembled people who face him on the Sabbath as a congregation who are to be led to the Throne of Grace - not as an audience who have gathered to hear him speak, but as a congregation to hear the still, small voice of God whispering peace and pardon for weary troubled souls. Let the congregation remember that they should come to church to worship God - not to hear a weak, unskilled mortal man orate. This is a house of Prayer in which we are privileged to keep our tryst [appointment] with the Chief". Marshall was adamant that all eyes should remain on Christ.

MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

Peter Marshall
1902 - 1949



Many newspapers asked to print his picture with excerpts from his messages, but Peter refused them unless he was permitted to choose the excerpt. Moreover, he detested any sort of hero worship. His heart of humility was a distinguishing mark in his life. Eventually, God moved Marshall and his new wife, Catherine, to the New York Avenue Church in Washington D.C. It was here that his years of preparation yielded great dividend. He was appointed US Senate Chaplain on January 4, 1947. For the convenience of the Senate's official reporters—this new position required Marshall to write out his prayers ahead of time. Marshall knew God had opened this door for him to minister to the country's leaders. At first few senators paid attention. But later as God's power became evident through those typed prayers Marshall saw a change. More senators chose to be present during the opening prayer sessions handled by Marshall.

Peter Marshall became ill at his home on January 26, 1949. Before being taken to the hospital, he said to his wife, *"I'll see you in the morning."* Unfortunately, Peter Marshall died that evening. He was buried at Fort Lincoln Cemetery in Brentwood, Maryland. Catherine was comforted by the statement's deep meaning and spiritual significance.

SCRIPTURE FOR MEDITATION

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."
John 6:35

SONG OF THE MONTH

BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE

1. Break Thou the Bread of Life,
Dear Lord, to me,
As Thou didst break the loaves
Beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page
I seek Thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for Thee,
O Living Word.
2. Thou art the Bread of Life,
O Lord, to me,
Thy holy Word the truth
That saveth me;
Give me to eat and live
With Thee above;
Teach me to love Thy truth,
For Thou art Love.
3. Oh, send Thy Spirit, Lord,
Now unto me,
That He may touch my eyes,
And make me see;
Show me the truth concealed
Within Thy Word,
And in Thy Book revealed
I see the Lord.
4. Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord,
To me, to me,
As Thou didst bless the bread
By Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease,
All fetters fall,
And I shall find my peace,
My All in all.

Source: Mary Lathbury

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