THE THRESHING FLOOR

by Gary H. Patterson <u>grace4u@gmx.com</u> <u>www.greatgrace4u.com</u>

In Autumn of 2007, the presence of God manifested wonderfully in a meeting that my wife and I had the privilege of attending. That night, we did more than taste of the powers of the age to come (Hebrews 6). We were allowed by His Excellency the greatest honor of being enveloped by His glory. For close to one hour, all I could do was kneel with my forehead stuck to the carpet as the streams of tears flowed. It was as if God had slightly cracked open the door of His heart and let some of us experience an iota of His grief. Undoubtedly, the Spirit was making intercession with groanings that could not be uttered (Rom. 8:26). When God's people begin to make connection with and become the expression of the jealous yearnings of the Holy Spirit (Jas. 4:5; NKJV), this is a sign that Heaven is about to visit earth. Heaven's perfect will becomes earth's greatest experience and victory.

While too many of the saints are romancing the world, the Spirit of God is yearning, pregnant with grace, as a great dam waiting to break forth upon this generation. Will we allow His yearning to become ours? A child is waiting to be born. Who will deliver? Who will push in spiritual labor (intercession) until the dam of worldliness, apathy, lethargy, and complacency in the Church breaks, and Jesus reaps a harvest in this final hour that is worthy of His suffering? Who will allow their hearts to become so broken, causing a flood of salvation, wisdom, revelation, healing, deliverance, and purity to be released through them to this generation? (See Jas. 4:1-12 & this companion article: <u>The Restoration of Spiritual Travail</u>.)

At some point during this visitation, the Lord revealed that He was going to visit His people in America. Then He clearly stated, "Look for Me…" After waiting a few moments for Him to finish what He was saying, it dawned on me that He wanted me to make an inquiry. So, I responded, "Where are we to look for You and find You?" He replied, "You will find Me at the threshing floor." Matthew 3:11-12 then came powerfully to the forefront of my mind.

"He [Christ] will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (12) His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

Jesus is coming to us as the refiner's fire and the launderer's soap (Mal. 3:2) so that we, as the Church in America, may know that we cannot mix the clean with the unclean, the holy with the unholy—that we cannot touch Divine things or even draw near to them with the filthiness of our flesh and the pride of self-accomplishment and selfish ambition. No flesh shall glory in His presence (1 Cor. 1:29).

The Lord asks,

"Will you meet Me at the threshing floor? Will you come to Me? Will you come? Will you?

Understand, My precious people in America, that you are more unclean than you know. Only when you seek Me with all of Your heart and soul will you find Me.

Do you sense the jealous yearning of My Spirit for you? He seeks someone to sympathize with His grief. Heaven's grief must now become Zion's travail.

Come, meet Me at the threshing floor. If you do, the victories that have been pending, in some cases for years, will suddenly come upon you."

The "threshing floor" is the place of thorough purging.

+++

Part two is now available: *The Gideon Army: What happens after we meet Christ at the threshing floor.*

 \sim

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotes are from New King James Version of the Holy Bible.

All definitions were taken from the Strong's Concordance of the Online Bible software.

© Copyrighted, Gary H. Patterson. All rights reserved. Permission granted to duplicate this article without altering or excluding any content.