Christian Seeking Identity

A Ministry of Alpha & Omega International Ministries

January 2015

Greeting Family and Friends,

Suzan and I certainly hope that you are well under way to enjoying God's blessings that He has for you in this New Year of 2015. Many persons that I know take this time of the year to set themselves aside and dedicate time to "listen for God's voice". Their purpose as well as mine is to seek direction for the New Year. As I did, the Lord spoke to me about incorporating evangelism into what He has us currently doing, which is teaching pastors and church leaders about their identity in Christ by teaching them about love of God and His grace.

As 2015 was drawing nearer a question arose up inside of me regarding the Biblical meaning of the number "15". I contacted Larry Perrino a good friend and fellow CBC classmate of mine to ask him about this question. I was amazed as I listened to him explain about the biblical meaning of the number "15". The part that made my spirit jump was when I read that the number 15 indicates "REST" to us in the Bible. This "rest" is where we His sons and daughters can put our full reliance, faith and hope in, our true redeemer.

So as we start off our schedule this year we are really looking forward to incorporating His "rest" into our everyday lives and into the new 'evangelism' part of our ministry.

We pray that the article in this months newsletter blesses you. History has a way of repeating itself if we are not careful.

God Bless you. Your friends, Mickey & Suzan

2015 Jan through April Schedule:

- Jan.19 22CBC Raleigh
- Feb. 4 6CBC Colorado Springs
- Feb. 9 10....CBC Washington DC
- Feb. 12 17....CBC Toronto

Feb. 18 – March 22....Hosting CBC-Colorado & CBC Toronto Mission Trip in Ecuador. We will be doing a seminar in Machala after last team leaves.

March 23 - April 2 ... Hosting CBC Atlanta Mission Trip in Nicaragua

April 3 – April 27. .Hosting CBC Washington & CBC Colorado Mission Trip in Colombia. We will be doing a seminar in Villavicencio between the two CBC teams.

Home for the summer!

Alpha & Omega International Ministries is a 501 c(3) non profit corporation. When you donate to this ministry your love offering or donation is tax deductible. **Mickey & Suzan Cartagena** 620 Carraway Rd, Graham , NC 27253 Email: aoiministries@Hotmail.com - Webb site www.christianseekingidentity.com

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History Repeats Itself!

It is a known fact that history repeats itself! People tend to make the same mistakes over and over again. Religious history falls into the same category. Adam and Eve made the initial mistake. They tried to access the things of the kingdom without God's intervention and it produced spiritual death.

As we read through the Bible, we find that they were not the only ones to make that same mistake. When God delivered the Israelites from the hands of the Egyptians, they failed to enter into God's rest because they did not believe that God would and could provide for them. **Hebrews 3:14-19.** All that God has ever wanted from people is that they allow Him to be their provider.

In 2 Chronicles 20 we find Jehoshaphat facing an overwhelming situation! The Moabites and Ammonites were coming against him and there was no way that he could overcome the situation by himself. He cried unto the Lord and said, "We have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee." God replied saying, "Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord!" 2 Chronicles 20:12,15,17

Jehoshaphat followed God's advice and it won him a great victory. Unfortunately, those that followed after him did not always stand still nor did they fix their eyes upon God. We in our generation are no different!

The church has had a very performance minded mentality. When we find ourselves faced with circumstances and situations we do not tend to fix our eyes on Jesus. We tend to say, "What have I done wrong, and what do I need to do to fix it?" While it all sounds very noble, it is a deceitful lie from the enemy with a subtle twist that has caused us to become a very frustrated people. **Rom** 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

We do not have the ability to muscle our way through our walk with God. When we try to perform based on our natural strength, we fall short. Our relationship with God is based on performance-**God's performance!**

Psalms 57:2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me.

Gods whole purpose upon this earth is to perfect [complete, perform] that which concerns us!

Psalms 138:8 The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

We are the work of his hands! He ever lives to intercede for us! (Hebrews 7:25) When we find ourselves in a state of lack or need, if we boldly run to Him (Hebrews 4:16), He will supply the grace [power of influence upon our heart or internal motivation] that we need in order to push past the limitations of our will.

Philippians 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

The next time you find yourself surrounded by a multitude of obstacles, don't repeat history by looking introspectively for the answer. Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. The battle is not yours. It is the Lords! 2 chronicles 20:2,9,12,15,17

Blessings to you!