

CHRISTIANS SEEKING IDENTITY

NEWSLETTER

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Greetings Family & Friends,

We certainly pray that you and your Families had a wonderful New Years. Suzan and I finished the year by celebrating our 9th wedding anniversary (Dec. 30th) and bringing in the new year in Charleston, SC. It is a very historic and beautiful city where horse drawn carriages are the preferred form of transportation and the old historic "southern homes" with their beautiful gardens are the envy of all the visitors.

It is with great expectation and excitement that we are looking at this New Year. Our schedule starts in January with teaching in the CBC schools in Washington, DC , Baltimore, MD, Raleigh and Greensboro, NC. In February we travel to the CBC school in Woodland Park where we are scheduled to teach a few classes.

Just last month was a time when "peace and good will" seemed to be the topic of our conversation. Yet when we look around, the world is experiencing everything but peace. In this month's newsletter Suzan looks at what Jesus said in John 12:32 "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, I **will draw all men unto me.**" We pray that you will be blessed by the revelation of God's word.

God Bless you.

Your friends,

Mickey & Suzan

I Will Draw All Men Unto Me

Just last month was a time of year when "peace and good will" seemed to be the topic of our conversation. The world is experiencing everything but peace. We can look at things and trace many of the problems back to opposing belief systems. We all see things so differently and I am not just talking about Christians versus non-Christians. There are so many conflicting ideas about what it takes to have a relationship with God. Where did all these ideas come from and what is it going to take to bring us all into unity?

Not long ago I found myself reading the passages in Genesis about the Tower of Babel and I saw something that I had never seen before.

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. Genesis 11:1

I always understood this to mean that everyone spoke the same language and lived in the same general region. But the preceding chapter says that the people already spoke different languages and they were already scattered. **Genesis 10:5,18,32**

It is not that they all spoke the same language. They all thought alike!

They were all carnally minded! They approached God with a united carnal effort! In Genesis 8:21 God said he would never again destroy the earth with water because it didn't solve the problem. Man is bound by his natural imagination that works according to his carnal nature and it causes spiritual blindness and destruction. **Romans 8:6-7**

And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower (Hebrew definition-platform or pulpit where pleadings were made), whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. Genesis 11:4

Everyone believed that unless they did something to gain God's favor, they would be ruined. In a way, I guess, they were not so different than what we are. They had seen the results of the mistakes that there not so distant ancestors had made. The whole earth was destroyed by a devastating flood and they wanted to make sure that the same thing didn't happen to them. The trouble is, their approach was wrong. 'Let us build a city,' by the work of our hands. Does that sound familiar? Isn't this what gets all of us in trouble even today! What do we have to do to gain God's favor? It is a failure formula and God knows that.

And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. Genesis 11:6 -7

God simply brought confusion to their efforts. They began to disagree with one another as to how they were going to accomplish their goal and that division drove them apart.

There is only one way that any of us can understand spiritual things and only one way to come into agreement. We have to get a revelation of the truth from the Holy Spirit. Spiritual things can only be spiritually discerned. The flesh profits nothing. **1 Corinthians 2:9-14, John 6:63**

God loves us so much that he has provided a way to overcome the limitations of the carnal mind and the effects of the Tower of Babel. He is drawing all things together again in Christ Jesus **Ephesians 1:10** He has poured out his Spirit upon all flesh. It is the Spirit that brings life.

For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;
Ephesians 2:14, 18-19

The world is full of issues that need to be addressed and resolved but we need to keep in mind that ultimately, we are going to have to place our confidence in the power that God has to bring men to a revelation of the truth. Guns, wars and legislation are only a temporary fix, because they have no power to change man at the heart level where the real problem is.

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. John 12:32

