

DON FINTO Speaking Life

The Caleb Company

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TRAVEL UPDATE


Thank you to all of you who were thinking of us while in Australia and New Zealand in late February and early March. Joseph Watson received us well. We sensed the favor of the Lord on us as we shared with groups in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne, Australia as well as in Christchurch, Wellington and Auckland, New Zealand.



Above: Joseph and Don on the shores of Melbourne, Australia

Right: Curt Landry and Don Finto with Eyal and Divva, an Israeli couple, in New Zealand.



Curt Landry, our Messianic rabbi/friend from Oklahoma was with us on the New Zealand stretch. The anointing and response seemed to increase as Curt and I traveled as "one new man." We stood under the Talit together, he blowing the Shofar, I reciting the Hebrew Aaronic benediction. Ministry times were plentiful, even to many young Israelis touring the land after their military duties. Several hundred Christian homes house them during their back-packing days and are finding a good openness to discussing the things of God. New Zealand was also special to us because it is literally "unto the ends of the earth" from Jerusalem, exactly twelve time zones away. If you'd like to have a more thorough report of that trip, check the website at www.calebcompany.com. 

CONDITIONAL BIBLICAL ZIONISM

Recently we had the blessing of hearing Malcolm Hedding share with us. Malcolm is now the Director of the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem, an embassy that was formed when the nations moved their embassies out of Jerusalem, an embassy to assure Israel that there are many Christians in the world who recognize Jerusalem as the capital city of Israel.

Malcolm gave me terminology for something that I have believed, but did not have the clarity of expression for. He spoke of "conditional biblical Zionism." The complete possession of all the land promised to Israel is conditional on her return to the Lord.

Ezekiel saw a time when Israel would return from her exile, not because she had turned her heart to the Lord, but "for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. I will show the holiness of my great name...then the nations will know that I am the LORD" (36:22-23).

We who embrace what we believe to be a biblical view of "Zionism" are correct when we state that the whole land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and reaffirmed to Joshua, will one day belong to the nation of Israel. Then why is it not her inheritance today? Is God weak that He cannot give them the entire land of Judea and Samaria as well as the inheritance across the Jordan? No, of course not.

God's promise to Abraham was an unconditional promise. The land belongs to Israel. But the right to live in the land was dependent on Israel's faithfulness to God. Moses closing words to Israel (Deut. 28-30) warn them that unfaithfulness will be "rewarded" with exile, that only faithfulness to God will assure them the right to live in the land God has given them for a thousand generations.

God has brought Israel back "for the sake of my holy name" so that "the nations will know that I am the LORD." He will complete the

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BULLETIN BOARD

Sixteen of us will be taking a Prayer Journey to Israel for ten days from June 12-22. Please put our names on your refrigerators and remember us in prayer for those ten days.

If you would like to participate with us financially, either by helping with those who believe they are called to this trip but do not yet have all their finances, or by donating to the general ministry fund (as we would like to take thousands of dollars to give to the saints in Israel – a very biblical and needed blessing in these days), please contact Tina Marie.

Also, if you would like to participate in our October Prayer Journey, you may contact Tina Marie for additional details at:

tinamarie@calebcompany.com

THE CRUCIBLE

“My little children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Messiah (Christ) is formed in you.” (Galatians 4:19)

The forming of the nature of Jesus in us! God will sacrifice anything in order to put us in a place where we reach out to Him. He wants to possess our hearts, our inner being, and then form that inner being into the nature of His Son.

I just returned from speaking to our music and arts group called “The Crucible.” What an appropriate title! A crucible is “a place or situation in which concentrated forces interact to cause or influence change or development.” (Webster)

We are all in God’s crucible. Lately I have been seeing everything through this grid. Paul says that all the ministry gifts are given so that we eventually attain to the whole measure of the fullness of Messiah (Eph. 4:13), that we are “predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son” (Rom. 8:29). The Hebrews writer reminds us that hardships will be used of God to discipline us so “that we may share in his holiness” (12:10).

Think of what God’s heroes of the past had to endure in order to grow up into the men and women of God He wanted them to be—Joseph, Moses, Jacob, David, Mary, Mary Magdalene, Zacchaeus, Nicodemus. They were put through the press of their own sins, the sins of others, life circumstances, being well known or unknown—so that God could capture their attention, their hearts and their wills.

I had an interesting telephone call the other night—from a man I have known since my days on the farm in West Texas—even though we have not spoken in years. He had read the “Your People” book and found my telephone number. We talked about the intervening years. He became a very successful medical doctor, married, six children, then he had an affair with a nurse, she became pregnant, he went through a divorce and has now been married to the mother of his seventh child for over twenty years. Now here is the interesting observation since I am watching God’s crucible in people’s lives. It may well be that this man whom we would call the victimizer may draw closer to the Lord than his first wife and their children, whom we would call the victims – if, he will allow God to capture his heart through every circumstance of life.

You may not think this fair, but God does not deal in fairness. He deals in mercy and grace. “Mercy triumphs over judgment” (James 2:13) for those whose hearts turn to Him.

God will allow the most bizarre situations into your life to bring you to a place where you cry out to Him. Every experience in life is an opportunity from the Lord to yield to Him—whether you live in poverty or wealth, whether you are abused or the abuser. God’s economy is not our economy. A death or even a murder provides an opportunity to turn to the Source of Life. Trouble in a family, a divorce of your own making or one that is forced upon you—every circumstance in life is used of God to mold your heart if you will let Him.

Some years back an elderly Methodist preacher named Paul Billheimer wrote a book called “Don’t Waste Your Sorrows.” The whole thesis of the book is—use whatever is in your life to be drawn into the heart of God and reshaped into His likeness.

This is not something someone else can do for you. It has to be a decision of your will. Do not fret life’s circumstances, even the mistakes or sins of your own past. Allow the Lord to use them to capture your heart and form you.

Life. The crucible of God. The crushing. The shaping. “Until Christ is formed in you.” 📖

(ZIONISM cont.)

transaction when Israel’s spiritual return is complete.

What lies between the partial return and the complete possession of the Land? According to the prophets there will yet come times of great distress such as the world has never known. The whole world will be in upheaval. “I will be like a lion to Ephraim,” the Lord says (Hosea 5:14-15), “like a great lion to Judah. I will tear them to pieces and go away; I will carry them off, with no one to rescue them. Then I will go back to my place until they admit their guilt. And they will seek my face; in their misery they will earnestly seek me.”

Isaiah says that when the Lord sends judgments upon the earth, the people of the world learn righteousness (26:9). God’s judgments will bring redemption to Israel, purification to the church, and damnation to the unrepentant.

These are serious times. May the Holy Spirit seize control of our hearts! May we be strong in body, soul and spirit! Your will be done, Lord, on earth as it is in heaven! 📖

You can always find updated calendar and schedule information on our website.

www.calebcompany.com

and for “Spirit of Grace” humanitarian aid ship to Israel updates, visit:

www.israelrelief.org



BLESSING

WE ARE HAVING PROPHETIC WORDS ABOUT AN INCREASE IN LEVELS OF AUTHORITY, FRESH ANOINTING, RELEASE OF FINANCES FOR KINGDOM PURPOSES. MAY THE LORD OPEN YOUR HEART TO RECEIVE ALL THAT HE WANTS TO GIVE YOU. MAY YOUR HEART BE CLEAR OF ANY RESENTMENTS OR UNFORGIVENESS FROM PAST WOUNDS. MAY YOU BE ATTUNED TO THE VOICE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR ANY AREA OF YOUR HEART THAT NEEDS TO BE CLEANSED, ANY SHADOWS OF SIN THAT MAY BE LURKING IN YOUR SOUL. MAY YOUR LINES OF COMMUNICATION IN THE SPIRIT BE OPEN SO THAT YOU CAN HEAR THE FATHER’S VOICE AND RESPOND TO HIS EVERY BECKONING. MAY THE STRENGTH AND POWER OF THE LORD ENTER YOUR BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT. MAY FAITH AND HOPE RISE WITHIN YOU THAT ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD ARE INDEED YES AND AMEN IN HIM. MAY YOU HOLD ON TO YOUR GOD-DREAMS UNTIL YOU SEE THEM COME TO FRUITION. MAY THE LORD RECLAIM YOUR LOVED ONES AND RESTORE ALL OF US INTO HIS KINGDOM PURPOSES. MAY YOU BE ENCOURAGED, FULL OF COURAGE, TODAY. MAY YOU REJOICE IN THE SECURE FUTURE WHICH IS YOURS IN HIM. ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD THROUGH YESHUA/JESUS THE SON AND THE BLESSEDNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. 📖