

An Old Prophet's Years Of Laments



Prophetic Insight 2/19/2024: *Bamboozling Of and By The Spiritually Dark*



Mike: You probably haven't heard the word "bamboozle" lately. It means to cheat or defraud, to outwit or beguile. But I specifically chose "bamboozle" as part of the title because it best defines two categories of people. The *bamboozled* are self-identified Christians who live with inner spiritual darkness and let themselves be misled and cheated. *Bamboozlers* are spiritually dark Christians who refuse to trust our heavenly Father for provision and feel no guilt in wheedling money from other Christians. I'll be discussing what's required *for you* to stay free of spiritual darkness so you'll neither bamboozle others nor be bamboozled yourself. To encourage you to hear the Holy Spirit yourself and follow through in what He says, below are testimonies of some followers of Jesus who are spiritually free and do hear from the Holy Spirit and obey Him.

FYI: For the Holy Spirit to use me as a prophetic messenger is contingent on me living repentantly. A good warning for me against disobeying the Spirit and suffering dire consequences has been the account of Jonah's rebellion and what happened to him! (I will be sharing my own "Jonah experience" in an upcoming Lament). I can assure you though that **Christ-like confidence** in His service occurs when I've repented (1John 1:9), and also by remembering Who is giving me the revelations (Amos 3:8). Having and restoring divine boldness is absolutely necessary for me to be able to faithfully serve as a message-giving voice of the Spirit, especially when I've needed to overcome fear of rejection and retaliation by reprobates. My oft-repeated prayer is this: *"Lord Jesus, please help me to have Your love, forgiveness and compassion for others as I serve You prophetically."*

Sue and I help each other live repentantly. After our heavenly Father had given us the prophetic message of the Hebraic Restoration, He prescribed His conditions for using us: ***"It is because you live repentantly with Me. As long as you remain repentant, I will use you to share this message."*** We know that the Bible requires repentance in order for followers of Jesus to keep living spiritually free. So that's become a way of life for us when we do fall short—so we can be fully available for Him to use.

Testimonies of the spiritually free – followers of Jesus with no unconfessed sin or demonic strongholds.

Hearing from the Holy Spirit and walking in obedience to what He directs or guides is something every born-again Christian can and should be doing as Christ's own! Below are accounts of *routine events* which came about through some of His who aren't imprisoned in spiritual darkness. It's been my delight to be connected with these people in one way or another. And please note that these spiritually free servants boldly acted on the Holy Spirit's guidance:

◆ *"Cross-stitch a baby blanket for Mary."* As Sue was browsing a crafts display, the Holy Spirit told her to make a blanket for a dear friend who had one child but had been told by her doctor that she couldn't have more children. Shortly after Sue finished the blanket, Mary conceived the first of three more babies! And this precious gal knew that only her Lord could have brought this miracle about.

◆ *"God has told me to tell you that He is not sending you to the mission field. But you will send hundreds in your place."* This message was given to me by the head of the Missions Department at seminary. Sue and I had already been accepted to be missionaries to Nigeria, but then we received Dr. Wilson's prophetic word. Just a few weeks later the mission agency made clear that we were not speak of

the Holy Spirit while on the mission field. We knew we couldn't comply with that restriction because we'd be blaspheming the Spirit by our silence. We withdrew our candidacy, and within several months other events led us to the retreat center. But Father remembered His prophetic promise! While we served at the retreat center, Sue not only taught conversational English to international students' wives at the nearby University of Connecticut (our alma mater); she also coordinated Christian families befriending international students as well. We started our first house church with the intent of discipling students who became followers of Jesus so they could bring Him back to their own lands when they completed their course work — just as the Spirit had said.

◆ *“Our Lord told me to tell you to get health insurance.”* This was the message we received from a friend in another state after we'd been at the retreat center for several months. Since we weren't receiving any salary, he offered to pay for our first three months' insurance. The day after the insurance went into effect I ended up in the emergency room after slicing my knee with a chain saw. The next week Sue broke her finger and needed her wedding ring cut off at the ER. And a few weeks later our son was hospitalized and needed major surgery.

◆ *“Tell them it's his kidney.”* Sue: Per the above testimony, our son had been hospitalized with a consistent 105° temperature that refused to come down. The medical staff had no idea what was causing this, and the meds they were using weren't helping. As I was hanging out clothes, the Holy Spirit spoke distinctly: “Tell them it's his kidney.” I immediately phoned Mike at the hospital, and he relayed the message to the nurse. She told him they'd tested his urine but it showed no sign of infection. He persisted and she retested — and as the Spirit had said, he had a kidney infection. An antibiotic was given and his fever came down. THEN the next day the doctor told us that the antibiotic our son was given shouldn't have worked on that particular infection, but it did! All praise to our Lord Jesus! A few weeks later surgery removed the cause to the infection.

◆ *“Our Lord sent me to tell you He intends to expand your ministry.”* A prophetic friend had driven miles out of his way to deliver this message. We were already fully booked for many months into the future and were frankly almost overwhelmed with all that we were doing to keep up the farm and serve retreaters. But we committed this word into our Lord's capable hands. A few weeks later while there was a women's retreat at the center, I began what was to be the first of many opportunities in conducting men's retreat at other venues. And the Spirit moved Sue out of the kitchen to begin leading women's retreats, and sent us helpers too!

◆ *“A few days ago while our home church was praying, the Lord told us to tell you to get away from your publisher.”* We received this phone call after we'd been sharing the Hebraic foundations for several years. It was confirmation for us since just one day earlier our Board of Directors had ordered Sue and me to sever relations with our publisher who saw us and our message only as \$\$\$\$\$.

◆ *“Call your mother right now!”* This is a word the Holy Spirit gave me for Sue while we were living in Colorado Springs and her elderly mother was in Connecticut. When Sue phoned her Mom, there was no answer, so she contacted her sister who lived a few miles from their mother. Her sister immediately drove to their Mom's home. It was stifling hot inside, and Mom was lying on the floor suffering from severe dehydration. Sue's sister revived her and took her to her doctor for treatment.

◆ *“One of your parents is going to die before the end of the year.”* It was August when the Spirit told me to tell Sue this while we were living outside Flagstaff, AZ. Sue quickly flew to Connecticut and used

her time there to make clear the Gospel to both of her unbelieving parents. In December I received the call that Sue's Dad had died. The Spirit then graciously prompted her sister to relate two particular anecdotes of their father's final weeks. These stories confirmed that he had indeed responded to the message Sue had given him during her last visit with him. What comfort and peace for Sue to know this!

◆ *"You don't belong here anymore!"* The Holy Spirit spoke this to me while I was barbequing on the porch. He repeated the command three times, each time increasing the forcefulness of His tone. I related this to Sue and she prayed for confirmation. The Spirit told her, "You belong where your husband belongs." So we put our house on the market not knowing where we were going until just before it sold. As I was praying, the Holy Spirit directed me to look for our next home using Google maps. The one that He showed me would be ours was 50 miles outside Boise, Idaho, and we bought it over the phone!

There's nothing exceptional about the divine guidance you've just read about. These are testimonies of the spiritually free who refuse to hold onto unconfessed sin. And they've evicted any demonic influence in the Name of Jesus so they might hear only the voice of His Spirit. My desire is that every genuinely born again person have this same boldness in publicly representing our Lord Jesus in the world with testimonies of trust in a God Who loves to communicate with His kids. This boldness is made possible because the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ, lives within His own.

Unrepentance is the gateway to spiritual darkness.

Only spiritual darkness in your soul—your mind, will and emotions—can hinder you from publicly identifying with our Lord Jesus. Don't hide Who He is to you! It really miffs me when I see so many Christians living in spiritual darkness while knowing that our heavenly Father is so willing to forgive. Why would anyone want to cling to unconfessed sin as so many do? The spiritually dark balk at boldly representing our Lord Jesus to unbelievers and/or to act on the Holy Spirit's guidance. They have all kinds of excuses and rationale for sinful actions or attitudes they don't want to let go. But **cowardice, fearfulness**, and even **refusal to represent Christ in public** are clear indicators that they're harboring spiritual darkness. As we've noted in our workbook, **Demolishing Strongholds**, there are severe consequences for tolerating unconfessed sin:

When sin remains unconfessed and habitual, demons can establish strongholds in your mind, will and emotions. From these places of operation, the demons deceptively sound just like your own voice in your head—and you're deceived into believing that you came up with the thought. Demons use arguments (denial that you have a problem) and pretensions (pride or rebellion concerning your attitude or activity) to defend themselves (see 2 Corinthians 10:4,5). And you aren't even aware that Satan is behind these thoughts and responses!

As the strongholds block out God's truth and His love, you tolerate even more sin, eventually becoming a reprobate. One of the worst and most common demonic deceptions in your soul is the voice convincing you not to identify publicly with our Lord Jesus. By inducing **feelings of insecurity and inadequacy** you act cowardly and fearfully when it comes to publicly speaking about Jesus, even verging on denying Him by your silence.



Humanist counsel ensnares the spiritually dark.

Prior to seminary I had several encounters with demons while aboard my last navy ship. A sizable number of satanists were onboard, and my Christian brothers and I were engaged in a spiritual battle with them. We were gaining valuable firsthand experience in trusting in the power of Jesus's Name to free people out of darkness and into His wonderful Light (1Peter 2:9). The glorious result: our brotherhood was enlarged by the ex-satanists whom our Lord Jesus delivered!

After leaving the navy I took a counseling course at seminary. There I encountered Humanism's powerful influence in Christianity. (Unbiblical facets of Humanism: A child is born good. Poor parenting irrevocably harms the child, resulting in "adult problems" which make him or her a perpetual victim.) The professor and I frequently 'locked horns' since his view of the Bible was through a Humanist filter with absolutely no allowance for the effects of unconfessed sin, unforgiveness, or demonic influence. At that time the popular ministry, Focus on the Family, also seemed to emanate from this same vein. My lament is that so many adults who have undergone this method of Christian counseling remain in spiritual darkness, trapped in feelings of "victimization", fear of rejection, and unresolved bitterness.

On a broader note, the dominating influence of Humanism within Christianity has made my role of service as a prophet increasingly more difficult. Too many Christians are all too comfortable in straddling worldly values and goals while giving lip service to God in religious gatherings. I frequently find myself frustrated by the seemingly impenetrable wall of contemporary "Christian" Humanism's goal – personal happiness without moral boundaries or the guilt of sin.

The spiritually dark who distrust our heavenly Father bamboozle others.

This specific issue has upset me for years as I've observed Christian ministries spreading widespread doubt in God through distrusting that our heavenly Father will financially provide. Before I go on, though, I want to remind you of George Müller. A Christian evangelist, George Müller (1805–1898) was director of the Ashley Down orphanage in Bristol, England. He provided for thousands of orphans by means of the "*faith principle*" — he trusted God and never asked people for money. While Müller is highly esteemed in Christianity by people who know of him, these are often the same folks who refuse to trust our heavenly Father as he did.

FYI: I personally know of only a few other Christians who live without concern about finances as Sue and I do. It's been many decades since we received a paycheck, and every need has been fulfilled. Our Lord is amazingly creative in His provision, and the Holy Spirit has used specific people and situations which only He could to provide for us—and we do thank each and every person He prompted on our behalf! We mentioned previously that when our Father commissioned us to share the Hebraic foundations while we were staying at a retreat center in Latrun, Israel, He promised, "*You share this message and I will provide for you.*" He has never failed us, and by His grace we haven't doubted or fretted. This is a trustworthy axiom: "Doing His will His way brings His provision and His peace."

It devastates me when our Father is defamed by **doubters in ministry who fret finances**. At the end of 2023 you may have encountered the distrust in our heavenly Father that these fretting ministries revealed as they bamboozled 'end-of-the-year' donations. Rather than trusting Father by limiting themselves to just informing people of their ministry needs and encouraging prospective donors to seek the Holy Spirit to guide them, these ministries sent out very slick appeals (some with trinkets) to wheedle donations and arm-twist potential supporters.



You may have received the same donation inducement from Christian ministries as those which secular organizations sent out: ***"If you donate now, your gift will be doubled by an anonymous donor!"*** Many appeals we received at the end of 2023 or saw on TV had this promise of "doubling your gift". A dear friend told us this past week that she'd received a dozen and a half such requests! (In contrast to manipulative tactics, I'm personally aware of two ministries who trust my heavenly Father for provision by asking potential donors to seek the Holy Spirit to find out *if* they're to give, and how much to give.)

Here's another very slick appeal method that's used by ***"We don't trust our Father and can't have you asking the Holy Spirit if you're to donate"*** ministries: They send you images of desperately needy faces, especially of children, to break your heart and open your wallet. **Compassion-inducing marketing** is very manipulative as it bamboozles Christians to donate. Even organizations which solicit funds to save dogs and cats and elephants use the same scheme—and they make no claim to be "Christian". I've had to expose the sins and illegal activities within some Christian organizations and ministries that use bamboozling in their marketing. If you'd had to do this, you would be purposeful in seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance before you responded with funds. Please take this warning to heart:

If repentance isn't part of your life when you sin, and if you allow demonic strongholds to remain in your soul, you will distrust our heavenly Father. And when it comes to 'Christian solicitation', you'll fail to ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance. The apostle Paul is serious and sincere when he informs you that, *"Satan disguises himself as an angel of light"* (2Corinthians 11:14). Don't let yourself be bamboozled by people or ministries that steer you away from seeking the Spirit of our Lord for guidance on giving. Realize that Satan's slick servants are already inside Christian denominations, congregations, ministries, and political action groups. Take this from someone who's been sent by the Spirit to expose wrongdoing and unbiblical motives: If a person or ministry can't trust our heavenly Father, they're also hiding other sins.



Those who distrust our Father will use animosity against others to bamboozle you.

Our Lord has been restoring the Jewish people to the land of Israel for several decades as He promised. But out of sorrow I need to tell you about an evil tactic used by certain ministries in Israel who refuse to trust our heavenly Father for provision. Twenty-five years ago I began to notice that Sue, who read their monthly appeal letters, was increasingly despising the Muslims who were living there. It was as if someone was tempting her to violate our Lord's command to *"Love your neighbor as yourself"* (Luke 10:27b) and, *"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you"* (Luke 6:27).

I called the Director of one of the ministries because the Holy Spirit told me they were soliciting donations in part by attacking and discrediting Arabs and Muslims. He confirmed that this approach was especially effective in getting donations from divorced women in the United States who were one of their larger blocs of donors. I responded that my Lord Jesus wouldn't do this, and that it violates God's word of love, forgiveness and compassion for all of mankind (John 3:16; Luke 6:35). I could tell that he shut his ears to my warning and the conversation ended. And as Sue and I discussed this, she realized in her spirit that she needed to stop reading these materials. Please weigh before our Lord if you are finding that you're becoming agitated against any specific category of people because of what you read or watch or listen to.

