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Issue 5

Little Book

In the tenth chapter of Revelation John says he say a mighty angel coming down out of Heaven. He was arrayed with a cloud, a rainbow was on his head; his face shone as the sun, and his feet were like pillars of fire. In his right hand he held a little book, a little book that was open, wide open. The angel put his right foot on the sea, and his left foot on the earth, and with his right hand lifted up, he swore that time should no longer be.

This little book will be open until the end of the world. When the angel stands with his foot on the sea, and the earth, the little book is still open as he declares that time shall be no more; Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away but My word shall not pass away."

Then the voice that John heard from heaven told him to go to the angel, and tell him to give him the little book. John went and told him, and the angel told him to take it, and eat it, and the eating would be sweet in his mouth, and bitter in his belly.

There are three things John will tell us about the little book. First we note that the voice from heaven told John, "TAKE THE BOOK." John told the angel, "GIVE ME THE BOOK," and the angel told John, "EAT THE BOOK!"

TAKE THE BOOK

The voice that John heard from heaven, he heard again saying unto him that he should go and take the book that is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the earth and the sea.

That is good personal advice for every one of us; Go and take the book. The only way we can ever find time for the book is to take it. The devil will so order your life that you will not have time for the book, so take it. The song says, "Take time to be holy."

Take the book into the pulpit, take it. Notice how the apostles took the book into the pulpit. The book of Acts is a book of preaching. Consider the first gospel sermon by

the Apostle Peter in the second chapter of Acts. It takes twenty-five verses to record that sermon. About thirteen of those verses are where Peter is quoting scripture. Quoting scripture is apostolic. Half of the sermon was scripture. Take the book into the pulpit. The apostles and early preachers used the book when they preached.

Take the book; take it to those who are still walking in darkness. Most of us preachers spend most of our time preaching to the saved. We need to take it to the lost. We need to take the book out to the world, because the lunatics are running the asylum. Take the book, and now secondly consider that John told the angel, "Give me the book."

GIVE ME THE BOOK

John went to the angel who had the little book open in his hand and said, "Give me the book." That is the wish of the people who are starving for the word of God. They do not say, "Give me the works of the philosophers;" they are hungering for the Word.

My dad gave me the book at an early age. As a child he had me to read aloud out of the family sized Bible while he followed in another. I remember reading the whole Bible through as a child. The stories were pressed into my mind indelibly. I remember walking down an alley and seeing a neighbor boy in his yard. I called to him over the fence. "Hey, do you know the names of the twelve sons of Jacob?" He said he didn't. He probably thought Jacob was one of the neighbors. I recited them for him. "Reuben, Semeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Isacher, Zebulon, Joseph and Benjamin." I knew those names as a child. Some might say that is too much to expect from a child. Just ask the average child to name some of the characters from Star Wars, and they have no problem.

As I look back on it I now realize, as a child I was very interested in Star Wars, before it was made popular later on. I had learned from Revelation 12 about a great red dragon cast out of heaven, and he took one third of the stars with him. Those stars were some of the morning stars that sang together, and shouted for joy when God laid the foundations of the earth. Those stars as Jude tells us are now kept in chains of darkness unto the judgment of that great day. Now that is a real star wars story. Give me the book.

There was a well-known journalist, years ago; who said he never went to a church service, because no man can speak as often as a preacher does, and have anything important to say. There is some truth to this. Stand up comics can't speak to the same audience week after week, and have anything interesting to say on their own hook. These people have writers who help them with their material. Without writers they could not succeed. Yet a preacher has to speak to the same people week after week, sometimes three, and four times a week.

There is no way he can do it, unless he has writers; a Ghost writer-Holy Ghost, the author of the word of God. Whenever a preacher uses the Bible no matter how many times he speaks to the same people each week he will have something important to say. Give me the book.

One missionary states that in some parts of India there is an average of five rats in every home. Rats eat twenty percent of the grain, and cannot be killed because they believe the dead come back in other life forms. To kill rats means they may be killing a former relative. So the starving of these folk is a spiritual problem. If you could stand with a native and look at a cow grazing on the hillside, and muse wonder how many standing rib roasts are in that beast? How many succulent hamburgers could we get out of that cow? How many rib eyes could we obtain? The native standing there with hollow eyes, and emaciated skeleton would say--HOLY COW! Take the book, give me the book, and now thirdly, eat the book.

EAT THE BOOK

The angel had the little book open in his hand and he gave it to John with these instructions, Take it, and eat it, he did not say read it; he said eat it. When you eat, it will be sweet in your mouth, and bitter in your belly. John did as he was told; he ate the Little Book, It was sweet in his mouth. It tasted better than any strawberry short cake he had ever eaten. It tasted better than any chocolate bar he had ever enjoyed. It was sweet in his mouth, but as soon as he ate it, he got a bad case of heartburn. It was bitter in his belly.

John's experience is duplicated many times in life today. It was Peter who said, "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good." On the day of Pentecost the day the church was born the sermon that day accused the audience of killing the Lord. That accusation can be repeated to any audience living in the world today. We all had a hand in the crucifixion. Christ died for our sins. In their agony of conviction they cried out what must we do? What a sweet taste the announced remedy had that day, as they tasted that the Lord was good: "Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

The preacher today knows that to preach that message will be a bitter experience. People don't want to hear it, so

the preacher gets up; and burps out a sour message; a message full of the bile of compromise.

Isaiah has a statement that speaks to this situation when he says: "Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits." Isaiah 30:8-10 The message today must be as smooth as silk.

The modern day preacher must be inspirational; never use any part of the word of God that as Paul would say, reproves, or rebukes, or in any way indicates the need of repentance, Make it smooth.

Isaiah again comes to mind when he says: "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice as a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins." Isaiah 58:1

The preaching situation today is described very well from a physician in India who writes, and I read now what she said, "I listen to your program every Sunday over Radio Sri Lanka's All Asian service and find your messages deeply satisfying. I can still remember the time when pulpit teaching was all fire and brimstone, and now it is all love and forgiveness, no matter what one does or thinks. Your messages speak of both goodness, and the severity of God--So relevant in our day of partial Christianity."

And so the preaching of the gospel today may be a bittersweet experience. It is true the message may be sweet, but translating the message into a saving message for the lost has embittered many a servant of God.

But as John stood there with a bitter belly, he got no relief for his heartburn. He was told to preach anyway. "Thou must prophesy again over many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings." And the same goes for us. Take the book; Give me the book, Eat the book.

UPDATE: IKE & LEE

We praise the Lord for making us alive to see His glory in this month too--Praise His Name! Every one of us in the family is doing well and hope every one of you too is doing well by the very grace of God? The weather is still hot here and so tedious walking in the sun with bags at your backs but we thank God for all He is doing in our lives for the people who are giving themselves to Christ.

Ghana's 50th Independence Anniversary was a big opportunity for us to have more people to talk to in various villages we went, as many people were at home with their family members during the occasion. We took advantage of the occasion to visit 8 different villages and the result was amazing!

We are still on with our quest for a congregation of the Lord's Church at Fianko for the people we won for Christ but we are facing with some problems with the meeting place. Our paid money for the place had to be paid back to us because a church that had paid for 3 or so years rent advance for the same place but ceased worshipping there without telling the elders anything had to come back when they heard that we are going to occupy the place. The elders have however promised to get us a place, which they have by God's grace but there is some renovation, works to done on this structure that has been given us. We need to

change roofing sheets, woods, mend cracks and cement the floor, which will cost us approximately \$350. Hopefully, this congregation would be started before the 6th month in the year if we were able to get the renovation works done. That is the only hindrance now. The rains are here and we cannot use this place where you can see the heavens from inside. Thank you for your prayers and please keep praying for us and keep reading the newsletter for an update on the church of Fianko.

Due to the ice storms & weather in the States, Bibles were backordered and not forthcoming so it has made us to have a piled up of requests for them. More Large Print Bibles and Bibles in our local languages are very much needed. Thank God Bibles are forth coming in but we still need to do more. We thank you people for your prayers and support for the work. (Note: 8 cases (24 in case) and 36 used large print pew Bibles and 12 new Giant Print Bibles have been shipped in March and April GIJAPA)

THE TRUTH-GIJAPA is working and the Lord is also blessing OUR labour. He is adding to His church more souls every blessed day. We have a record of 49 baptisms in the month from different villages and towns through our outreach--Praise the Lord! We keep eyes on all these converts no matter where they are. Occasional travels are made to specifically visit these converts through our ministry to see how they are faring in Christ.

Well, we think we would leave you here with the above. There are many of search testimonies we will continue to publish in our up dates. Keep reading the GIJAPA Newsletter for more of these and be blessed.

SHALOM and God bless you all! Ike and Lee Pertey The Truth--GIJAPA (Ghana)

LETTERS AND TESTIMONIES Written to Ike & Lee

Dear Brother Ike and Sister Lee,

We thank you so much for letting us know the truth. For the first time in our Christian life we are hearing the true Gospel. Though we thought that we have been baptized, you have made it clear to us that we rather need to be immersed. We thank you so much for letting us know the truth. We are writing to you today to let you know that we have accepted the word and that my wife and I would like to be immersed. Thank you and God bless. *Sammy and Mary Quaye-Swedru. Ghana*. This couple and their son have since been baptized.

Hello Ike and Lee, but for you, we would be living in the dark till we are lost to these self-seeker preachers of our church. We thank you so much for pointing to us the truth about church finance. We have been robbed by these money-lovers for years that our first child had to pull out of school. We are told that if we did not feed the Pastor first before we think about our families, we won't go to heaven when we die. So everyday, we work hard on our farms to send foodstuffs and the little money we make to the Pastor and his family to feed on. We thank you sooooo.....much Ike and Lee for opening our eyes. We shall give ourselves

to Christ through baptism when you come back. Wofa Adu-Sempe Village. E/Region. Ghana. He and the wife baptized on our next visit.

Dear Ike and Lee, Thank you for the well explained Bible Class in our village last week. We clearly understood the teaching perfectly than we have been hearing from others Bible Teachers. We also like the translation of the sermon by Ed Bousman the while you said has been helping your ministry. May God bless you for the good work you are doing. We will expect you again soon. Yaw Nsai-Obrachire. Ghana

We are writing to thank you for the lessons (Studies in the Bible). We will complete them and send them back to you for the next lessons soon. Esther Aidoo and Friends.

We are taking this opportunity to specially invite you two to our wedding ceremony on April 6, 2007. You must come to see your sister been properly married in Christ. I thank you very much for your teachings and encouragement to me on my marriage. May God bless you and your wife. See you there. *Stella Obeng. Accra. Ghana*. This lady of 42 years without a husband and was fed up so deciding to get into fornication to at least get herself a child. We met her and we started counseling and encouraging her to wait on the Lord after studying the Bible with her and to know that she was a member of the Lord's church and no one was approaching her to marry. We thank GOD FOR HER.

Dear Ike and Lee, though we are also in the vineyard doing His work, we take a lot of inspirations from you when we see you making all the journeys to and from villages on foot with bags and stuffs on your backs. You challenge us to do more because we have more than we could do the work with. We wish we had money to buy you a vehicle. But remember that the Lord is with you always. Yaw Amervoh-Christ Way Church-Nsawan & Accra. Ghana.

OTHER LETTERS

Brother Ed.

Greetings, and thank you. May our great God continue to bless you and the excellent work you are doing. Thank you for the Bibles, I have given one to the lady that was baptized last week. Also the Ladies group has been given some for their work, they are doing well, we must encourage the ladies. The men's groups will be receiving the rest for the Bible study groups, people studying with possible baptism candidates. You have been contacted by several people from London, UK because of the circulation of the CD's and tapes. The leader of the Ladies group has been receiving the tapes and passing them. The Men enjoy the CD's. I am making plans to make copies of the CD's for

some of the women who have CD players. We thank you for the great encouragement we receive. Ernest who wrote to you from London worships with me at Stratford Church of Christ. He has been so encouraged by your messages on the CD's. He is a strong Christian, I praise God. Spring is coming soon and we will be going out to reach out to the Lost. We will need tracts and possibly a few more Bibles. One last favor, my wife is asking for a large print Bible, old age is catching up. If possible please help. I thank you for the one you sent me. Your brother and servant in Christ, Aubrey from Church of Christ in Romford, UK

Dear Ed,

Greetings from India--to you and your radio ministry personnel. I listen to your programme every Sunday over Radio Sri Lanka's All Asian Service and find your messages deeply satisfying. I can still remember the time when pulpit teaching was all hell-fire and brimstone and now it's all love and forgiveness, no matter what one does or thinks. Your messages speak of both the goodness and severity of God--so relevant in our day of partial Christianity. I wonder if it is possible to get scripts of your messages as the reception over the radio is not always good and one tends to miss important parts of the sermon from time to time? I'd be so grateful if this were possible. Closing with best wishes and a prayer that the Lord blesses you and your ministry. May it always glorify His name and be used for the extension of His kingdom here.

Sincerely Dr. Shelia from Bareilly, India

Dear Mr. Bousman,

I've been listening on WHAS (Louisville, KY) radio on Sundays and I **like your sermons**, (always derive pleasure from your message). You are the best of all the ones on radio or TV that I've experienced, and wanted to send this token of my appreciation to you. May God continue to bless you.

Sincerely Patricia from Louisville, KY

2007 Men's Clinic Schedule

"It's All About Jesus"

Time	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:30		Singing	Singing
9:45		"Lifestyle" Willie Purdee	"Service" Bane Angles
10:30		Break	Break
10:45		Singing	Singing
11:00		"Home" Dan Webb	"End of the World" Mike Free
2:00	Singing	Singing	Evening Sessions are open for the whole family Worship led by Art Bush All Sessions will be recorded and will be available for your purchase
2:10	"Salvation" Larry Atkin	"Church" Mike Steere	
2:55	Break	Break	
3:10	Singing	Singing	
3:15	"Obedience" Jerry Bliffen	"Suffering" George Faull	
7:00	Singing	Singing	
7:30	"Evangelism" Tony Sullivan	"It's All About Jesus" Ed Bousman	



Return Service Requested

Evangelistic Association, Inc. P.O. Box 511 Lynchburg, Ohio 45142

