

Behold
the Glory of God!



Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International

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DEMOS SHAKARIAN

**BEHOLD
THE GLORY
OF GOD!**

by

**DEMOS
SHAKARIAN**

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COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA 92628

FOREWORD

The legacy of Demos Shakarian is much more than the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International...

--the greatest Christian laymen's organization in the world!

A part of that legacy also is the charismatic movement which has swept into practically every Christian organization on the globe.

It also includes this booklet, "Behold The Glory Of God," which calls Christians to holy living.

This in turn will bring the shekinah glory of God to the church and the world!

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Cover illustration of Mount Sinai in Egypt by Cornell Morton from a photo by Demos Shakarian.

Cordially yours in Christ,
Vinson Synan,
Chairman,
North American Renewal
Service Committee

Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International
P.O. Box 5050

**BEHOLD
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DEMOS
SHAKARIAN**

INTRODUCTION

My Dear Partner,

A few months ago, when I was ministering in a breakfast meeting in Albany, New York, the anointing of God came down so strongly that I simply could not find the words to continue preaching. Instead, I yielded the meeting completely to the Holy Spirit, and invited the 580 men and women present to come forward and experience God's anointing, power, and glory.

Everybody left their seats in unison and moved to the front, open and ready to receive the glory of God into their lives.

As I prayed, men and women fell to the floor, unable to stand under the Presence of God. His shekinah glory was so powerful that these saints fell prostrate on the floor in adoration, reverence and prayer!

That time of overwhelming anointing was very special. But beloved, let me tell you clearly with the strongest words I can muster...

-- that day was only the beginning!

I see a time when the intensity of God's glory will dominate our Fellowship meetings and conferences, just like His Presence dominated a youth meeting I witnessed at the Mayo Hotel in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at Crystal Ballroom when 200 young men and women took off their shoes in the Presence of God. The Holy Spirit was so powerful in that ballroom that the youth fell on their faces before God...for two solid hours!

Rabbi Robins was with me that day as we walked through the auditorium and saw the radiant faces of these precious young people; we beheld the glow of God! The rabbi said to me, "Demos, do you know what that is? That's what they talk about in the Old Testament. That glow on their faces is the shekinah glory of God!"

Then he started to cry.

There was absolutely no preaching during this sacred time of divine Presence...all of us were simply submissive and sublime under the awe-inspiring POWER and GLORY of our Lord. The Presence of the Holy Spirit permeated every fibre and cell of that entire room.

You couldn't cross the auditorium to reach the other side...a bluish heavenly haze hung in the auditorium air.

Beloved, that's the type of glorious day I see returning again, a day when entire ballrooms will be bursting with people from all over the world, people flying from Nigeria, saints driving from Canada, to experience the power of God in their lives.

Heed my words.

They are not just fiery slogans to try to inspire you. They are a mighty message from God...the precise revelation He wants me to share with you NOW during this critical endtime moment in spiritual history.

During these first months of 1988 I've been diligently praying and fasting, seeking God on the Fellowship's direction for the year. The vision that keeps entering into my mind, my heart, and my spirit is that we will soon witness an increasing intensity of God's glory!

I see the great glory of God about to be unleashed upon this earth! God stands ready to open our minds, and to give us His peace, His joy, and His glory!

But the path to these heavenly experiences here on earth is not easy.

The only way to God's glory is through holiness.

Now, quite frankly, in this day and age, holiness is not a very popular message, but it is the scriptural truth!. Despite many false teachings in our current day, the Bible is clear on what moves God:

1. The amount of money you make will not impress God.
2. The size of your business empire will not move God.

What moves God, and what allows Him to unleash His glory, is our being cleansed by the blood of Jesus, yielded in our hearts as servants to Him, living pure lives...as He has commanded us to do.

When we accomplish that...then God will pour out His power and glory upon us!

Today, through this booklet, I want to challenge you to open up your heart to Him, receive His truths, and then let God pour out His Spirit in your life. Through this booklet, you will discover that there's a divine pattern to God's glory that flows through both the Old and New Testaments. In this booklet I will reveal to you the biblical progression of preparation that leads to God allowing His glory to flow upon the earth.

Do you want the glory of God in your life?

Do you want His Presence?

I believe you do.

And, when you receive the glory of the Lord in your life, He will meet your every need. He'll heal your body (that's what gives me the strength to go around the world). He'll heal your hurts. He'll change your life.

I've prayerfully sought God's revelations as I wrote this booklet. Now, I can only pray that you will open up your heart and allow the Holy Spirit to show you that a purified saint, cleansed by the blood of Jesus, is the divinely ordained pathway for receiving His glory.

May God bless you as you receive HIS WORDS.

In His glorious service,

Demos

P.S. PLEASE NOTE...the words on these pages are not a simple Bible study; they are the path to a new way of living, a new source of power for your daily living and testimony.

Please read this booklet in a prayerful state and with an open heart.

And God will mightily bless you!

"Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle."

(Exodus 40:34,35)

SECTION ONE OLD TESTAMENT GLORY

The way to God is through holiness.

Holiness is achieved through purity.

In the Old Testament days, the way to become pure was through a blood sacrifice. Animal blood was the vehicle used to cleanse men of their sins. That's why, when the angel of death saw blood, he passed over the houses of those inside.

"Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the Passover.

And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the basin; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you."

(Exodus 12:21-23)

Do you see the process here?

First, it took the blood of the lamb.

Then, that blood had to be individually applied to each

house...to protect it.

Finally, with the blood as a cover, a protection, the destroyer would not come into the house and cause death.

The objective of the animal blood sacrifice was clear...to act as a cover, to purify the recipient, and to atone for sins.

THE FIRST STEP for receiving the glory of God in the Old Testament is to be cleansed by a blood sacrifice.

In the time of Moses, God said to build a tabernacle where He could dwell among His people.

To prepare for this tabernacle, God asked for an offering from these with a willing heart.

"Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass, And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goat's hair, And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, And oil for the light, and spices for anointing oil, and for the sweet incense, And onyx stones, and stones to be set for the ephod, and for the breastplate. And every wise-hearted among you shall come, and make all that the LORD hath commanded."

(Exodus 35:5-10)

Can you imagine the screaming in a meeting today if I challenged our men to meet the commitment God demanded in the Old Testament?

I wonder how you would react if I said, "Now's the time for the offering. If you are a willing saint, then come forward now with your money, your stocks, your bonds, your best linen, your best clothes, and any precious jewellery you might have brought with you...wedding rings, gold chains, diamond

earrings...God wants it ALL!"

Why, if I said that in a meeting, probably half the room would walk out in disgust, convinced that "all that Demos Shakarian cares about is money."

The other half would stay, but only out of curiosity, anxious to see what crazy stunt I was going to pull next!

But that's precisely the way God took an offering in the Old Testament...and His people responded.

"And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the LORD'S offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments."

(Exodus 35:21)

If you study these passages, and others in Exodus 35, you will notice two adjectives keep reappearing: "wise-hearted, and willing-hearted." Scripture tells us that the builders of the temple were so willing and wise-hearted that Moses had to finally stop them from giving any more of their material wealth to God.

"And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make.

And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing.

For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much."

(Exodus 36:5-7)

O Heavenly Father, I pray there will come a time in our Fellowship when that spirit of willing generosity permeates our every action. We need materials, manpower, and tools to build our outreach, just as Moses needed them to build the ark.

They built the ark from an abundance of materials, and from very precise instructions. God told Moses how to build the ark...so many cubits this way, and so many wide, and so many deep, complete with the Holy of Holies, the inner chamber, the incense altar, the pillars...down to the last detail. When they neared completion, they...

"...made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD."

(Exodus 39:30)

Do you see it?

The LORD had commanded His children to build the tabernacle, and had given them very specific instructions for every single part of the building. When the temple was done, God commanded His children to write ONE THING in that tabernacle, and He wanted it in all capital letters (check your own Bible): HOLINESS TO THE LORD!

HOLINESS, above all, is important to God.

After the tabernacle was prepared, God called for a priest.

"And thou shalt put upon Aaron the holy garments, and anoint him, and sanctify him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

And thou shalt bring his sons, and clothe them with coats:

And thou shalt anoint them, as thou didst anoint their father, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office: for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations."

(Exodus 40:13-15)

Through His priests, they then gave a sacrificial offering to God.

"And he put the altar of burnt offering by the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation, and offered

upon it the burnt offering and the meat offering; as the LORD commanded Moses."

(Exodus 40:29)

After the Israelites made these sacrifices, THEN THE GLORY OF GOD CAME INTO THAT TENT!

And it was powerful.

It was so powerful that even Moses could not walk into the tabernacle because of the Presence of God!

"And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle."

(Exodus 40:35)

Beloved, let's be very honest about our walk with God. Today, so much emphasis is placed upon the loving, understanding nature of God...a God always ready and willing to forgive our mistakes (God calls them sins)...that we often forget that He has another part to His nature, a part that despises and detests that which is not holy.

"Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."

(1 Chronicles 16:29)

Here's the plain biblical truth: God does not want to have anything to do with those who are not holy.

"For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."

(Leviticus 11:45)

That's why he commanded the animal blood sacrifice...to atone for the sin in their lives, and make them holy in God's sight.

Solomon built a temple, and God told him to bring trumpeters and singers in to celebrate the day!

"And it came to pass, when the priests were come out

of the holy place: (for all the priests that were present were sanctified, and did not then wait by course:

Also the Levites which were the singers... having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets:)

It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals, instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD.

"So that the priest could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God."

(II Chronicles 5:11-14)

This passage shows us so much about God's nature, and about what pleases Him.

The splendour and glory of God was so great that when they were SANCTIFIED and UNIFIED as ONE, singing, praising, and thanking the Lord, the entire house of God filled with a bluish cloud...and the priests could not stand up to minister!

PRAISE was vital to the service.

The Old Testament priest met God in the Holy of Holies, but the necessary prerequisites to this miraculous encounter were thanksgiving and praise.

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise."

(Psalm 100:4)

Through our prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, the same power Moses experienced when he was instructed to build a

tabernacle where God could dwell amongst His people can exist in our lives today.

But please release all of your preset expectations of what prayer and praise should look like in your meetings and conferences.

There is no set formula for praise!

Scripture never tells us we must "do this" or "sing that" to praise God. Our Heavenly Father allows for diversity, spontaneity, and freedom of expression in our praise to Him.

So should we.

Those who exhibit one expression of praise, such as the lifting of hands, are no farther along the road to divine glory than those who choose to march in the spirit, or those who prefer to praise God with closed eyes while sitting down.

God wants us free to express ourselves, free to praise Him, in the manner that is comfortable to us. After all, look at the multitude of instruments God enjoys:

"Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD."

(Psalm 150:3-6)

Praise and worship are vital elements in creating a personal temple where God can dwell in His glory.

And what powerful glory it is!

Whenever Moses communed with God on the mount, his face would glow as he returned to his people. The radiance was so bright that he actually had to cover his countenance with a veil to protect those who gazed at his face!

"And it came to pass, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai...the skin of his face shone while he talked with him.

And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him.

And till Moses had done speaking with them, he put a veil on his face."

(Exodus 34:29-34)

Later, when the Israelites worshiped God in the tabernacle, the Presence of God was so overwhelming that Moses couldn't even walk into their tent.

"And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle."

(Exodus 40:35)

From our Old Testament study, it soon becomes very clear that God had certain actions He expected and honoured before He revealed His glory to His people:

1. He would not have anything to do with those who were not holy, and the way to holiness required a blood sacrifice to atone for sins.
2. Through the presence of a priest, an offering was presented before God.
3. Praise and worship created an atmosphere that literally prepared the temple for the habitation of God's glory.

*"Behold, He cometh with clouds;
and every eye shall see Him..."*

(Revelation 1:7)

SECTION TWO THE GLORY OF JESUS

In the Old Testament, God's children lived under the Mosaic Law.

Today, the moral absolutes of God have not changed...just as in the days of the Old Testament, He still expects us to be pure and holy.

But, God has a new, superior way to shower His blessings upon us--it's called Grace.

Through the Mosaic Law, God administered His eternal, moral absolutes in an external manner. The moral heart of the Law was written on tablets of stone outside of the people. Each new generation of Israelites came under the same administration of the Law by virtue of physical birth to Israelite parents and external circumcision, not by virtue of an internal change.

The Mosaic Law did emphasize the need for an internal change. In Section One we saw how a willing heart was important in giving. The Mosaic Law asked for internal change, but it did not produce that change.

By contrast, through grace, God administers His eternal, moral absolutes in an internal manner. The New Law consists of a law in the heart; it is a "new nature" produced by an internal change through the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

The New Law is not written on tablets of stone; it is placed in our hearts (the inner control centre of Christians).

Several New Testament passages show that Jesus Christ, through His ministry during His first coming, established grace as the new way of God's administration. I will just refer to a couple.

The Apostle John wrote the following:

"For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."

(John 1:17)

The new era of grace began with Jesus Christ. The Old Law was a ministry of condemnation, death, and wrath.

"But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away:

How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious?

For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, how much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory."

(II Corinthians 3:7-9)

We live in a different day! Romans 6:14 says, "For sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under the law but under grace."

Christians today no longer need to give a blood sacrifice. We are no longer under the law. Jesus Christ came as the pure Lamb of God and gave Himself as the final blood sacrifice for our sins. We now enter the holy place through His sacrifice.

"Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh."

(Hebrews 10:19-20, NAS)

God DEMANDS holiness, but man can NEVER make himself holy. That's why God sent His Son, the pure Lamb of

God, into this world through the virgin Mary. God the Father brought Jesus here, and He was sacrificed on the cross.

His blood was sprinkled. His blood was poured out like in the days of sacrifice in the Old Testament. It is this ultimate act of love, it is through this blood sacrifice that Jesus cleansed our sins.

If animal blood can cleanse sins under the Old Law, how much more can the blood of Jesus Christ cleanse us and prepare us for glory?

"For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

(Hebrews 9:13,14)

We have something much better than animal blood when we have the blood of Jesus, the blood of the Son of God. How much more will God respect His own Son's blood? He will not only pass over, but He'll pour out His Spirit upon us, open our minds, and give us peace and joy.

The blood of Jesus covers all of our sins, and washes our hearts. When we admit and confess our sins to God, we get rid of those sins and come under the blood.

God has given us a new covenant!

The first-century Jews were a unique people. They had many covenants in the Old Testament with God, including those God made with Abraham (Gen. 17:1-2, 9-14), and with the people of Israel (Exod. 24:1-8). Unfortunately, as is the nature of man, the Jewish people persistently broke the covenant by their sin, and in time, God, through the prophet Jeremiah, promised a new covenant. The new covenant would be inward

(God would write His law on their hearts) and would be founded on the basis of divine forgiveness.

"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people."

(Jeremiah 31:31-33)

When Jesus spoke of His blood as inaugurating the new covenant (Luke 22:20, NAS), He was saying in effect that a whole new way of approaching God would be opened up by His death. He was saying that the living church, not physical Israel, was the true covenant people of God.

Today, every saint who believes in Jesus Christ and serves Him is part of that covenant, and functions in the order of a priest.

"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

(Revelation 1:5-6)

Today, the animal sacrifice has been replaced by the blood of Jesus.

Today, the external temple has been relocated into our hearts.

Today, we no longer need to look to the distant priest to petition God for us. Each of us is now ordained to personally interact with God!

Today, because the Old Law has been replaced with the New Law, we can expect to see the greatest manifestation of the glory of God in the spiritual history of man!

"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;"

(Hebrews 1:3)

SECTION THREE

THE GLORY OF THE ENDTIME DAY

Not only did Jesus stand willingly as our one, holy, complete, and final sacrifice, but He now waits, willing and ready, to "appear in the presence of God" for us!

"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:"

(Hebrews 9:24)

I see a great glory coming!

As you read this booklet, I want to challenge you to come completely under the blood by repenting of any sin remaining in your life...

-- so that you can prepare to behold the glory of God in your own priestly temple!

God wants to send His glory into our meetings with such power and presence that our people will not be able to stand! But before that happens, we must let His blood wash our sins and hearts.

It is time to rid ourselves of all sin that comes between us and God; it is time to come under the blood.

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world,

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."

(Titus 2:11-14)

Open your heart to him, totally and completely, today.

I see great challenges and great victories coming. I see God pouring out His Spirit.

Believe what I'm telling you.

This is His way.

Get right with God, because God is saying: "Repent of your sins. Allow Me to purify and cleanse you, because I want to bless you. I want to pour out My glory. I want to show you My Shekinah."

"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

(II Peter 1:3-4)

In these days of mounting troubles, when divorce hits both Christian and heathen homes with the same intensity, when child abuse, alcoholism, and drugs are now a seemingly major part of our culture, when pornography and abortion kill the lives and the spirits of human beings, when our Christian leaders often lead by high-sounding words, not by example...then ONLY THE POWER OF GOD can solve the myriad of moral problems on the face of this earth.

Legislation won't do it.

Picketing won't do it.

Nothing but the power of God can save us.

But how will these backsliding Christians and heathens know His power unless they see it? When the heathen sees the glory of God come upon men, they will be frightened, repent of their sins, and get right with God.

When heathens experience God's power and glory, they repent!

That's what happened to Saul when he experienced the glory of God on the road to Damascus. It so shook his entire being that he actually lost his eyesight.

"And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, / came into Damascus."

(Acts 22:11)

God can use His glory to bring witness to the heathens, and He can use His glory to prosper and bless you, and heal your body. His glory gives me the strength to go around the world...because the Spirit and power of God is INSIDE of me!

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

(Romans 8:18)

We are His living temples, and what we are now experiencing, and what we will soon be experiencing with increasing intensity, is only a feeble reflection of what we will experience for all eternity!

Look at how John describes heaven in Revelation 21:22-26:

"And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their

glory and honour into it.

And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there."

i believe God has placed this revelation in my spirit because He wants to send MORE of His power, His anointing, and His glory into our lives, just as in the days when Solomon built a temple and God told him to bring trumpeters and singers in to celebrate the day!

"...the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD.

So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God."

(II Chronicles 5:13b,14)

The splendour and glory of God was so great that the assembled congregation, UNIFIED through singing, praising, and thanking the Lord, caused the entire house of God to be filled with a bluish cloud...and the priests could not stand up to minister!

They PRAISED God.

Beloved, I can see a day when every FGBMF convention is UNITED through singing, praising, and thanking God, when every auditorium becomes a house of the Lord, when the air is filled with a bluish cloud...so that we cannot even stand up to minister!

Praise Him constantly. Prepare yourself for your chapter meetings, your conventions, and your airlifts by spending time in prayer and worship. Scripture tells us that praise and worship should be a steady, continuous part of our lives: "...giving thanks always for all things" (Ephesians 5:20).

Paul and Silas even praised God from their jail cells.

"Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang

praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them."

(Acts 16:24,25)

Praise establishes an environment into which the Lord desires to come. He entered into the jail cell of Paul and Silas and FREED THEM OF THEIR BONDAGE.

Why? Because praise is His normal, comfortable habitat in heaven, and it is the earthly environment in which He feels free to manifest His Presence in power.

We were created to praise Him!

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

(I Peter 2:9)

That "marvellous light" is the same power of God we experienced at the Crystal Ballroom, and it is the same power Moses experienced when he was instructed to build a tabernacle where God could dwell amongst His people.

Today, it is the same Presence of God that will empower YOU!

In the days of Joshua, the ark was the manifested presence of God. But before the ark could be passed in front of the people, there was one command:

"And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you."

(Joshua 3:5)

Today, God manifests Himself through us. We are the ark! We are the temple. When we sanctify ourselves, God will manifest Himself in Glory! AFTER Joshua sanctified himself...God took him across the Jordan river and gave him a new land, and signs and wonders followed him and his people.

"So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a

great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city."

(Joshua 6: 20)

Do you see it? Are you ready to take your city, and our land, for Jesus, to move forward in signs and wonders?

If you are...we must sanctify ourselves!

Repent now of every single sin in your life.

Prepare to receive His overflowing shekinah glory.

In faith, begin to believe you can experience His glory in your life.

"Jesus said unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?"

(John 11:40)

Jesus stood willingly as our one, holy, complete, and final sacrifice, and now He waits, willing and ready, to "appear in the presence of God" for us!

"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."

(Hebrews 9:24)

Right now, I want you to say this prayer out loud, with a willing heart, to our Lord and Savior, and allow Him to prepare you to behold the glory of God:

"O heavenly Father, I know there are certain sins in my life. I'm ready to kill them now. I'm ready to destroy them now.

"Father, in the name of Jesus, I kill the idols in my life, ending this thing between you and me, and get rid of those things in my heart that for so long I have resisted destroying.

"Lord, cover these sins with your precious blood, dear Jesus.

"Forgive me my sins, Lord, purify and cleanse me, and let Your glory, let Your Presence come into my life right now.

"Lord, I open my heart to receive the power of God into my life.

"I receive healing.

I receive Your anointing now, in the name of Jesus. Amen."

