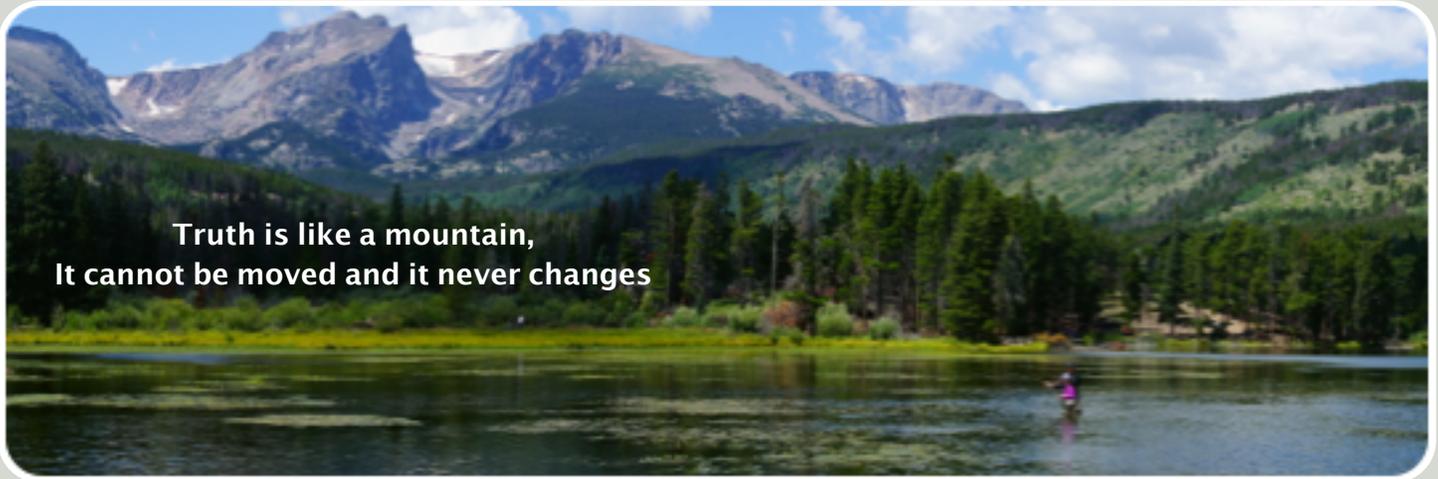


**APRIL 2019**

# “TRUTH”

**A SURE WORD  
FOR TODAY**



**Truth is like a mountain,  
It cannot be moved and it never changes**

## IN THIS ISSUE

### **TRUTH ZONE**

**“How Faith Works”**

**Conclusion**

**Page 2-3**

**A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA:**

**“I Am Not Ashamed!”**

**Page 4-5**

**PROPHECY UPDATE:**

**“Obscure Prophecy Fulfilled!”**

**Page 6**

## NEWSLETTER UPDATE

This month we want to draw your attention to our Prophecy Update. Studying Bible prophecy can be very interesting because it helps us interpret current events through the lens of Scripture, and then look ahead and speculate as to what we might see next.

However, even more exciting is to be able to look back and see that what was spoken in the Bible thousands of years ago has been fulfilled right before our eyes in this generation. Just such an event happened recently and is the focus of our Prophecy Update this month.

This involves an obscure prophecy found in Deuteronomy 33. This prophecy has rarely been taught on because there really was nothing to report. However, all that has now changed. This month we bring you exciting information about the fulfillment of this prophecy, and show you how once again, Bible prophecy proves the existence of God and the Divine inspiration of the Bible.

## "HOW FAITH WORKS" CONCLUSION

**WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. At times it may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to speak truth that will provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness. You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!**

This month we conclude our series on how faith works. If you have not read the previous articles, I strongly encourage you to go to the Archives section of our website and read them before reading this article.

The main point we have been trying to stress is that the only way we can have faith is if we hear God speak to us.

### **Romans 10:17 (TPT)**

"Faith, then, is birthed in a heart that responds to God's anointed utterance...."

If He has not spoken, there is nothing for us to believe, and if we have nothing to believe, we cannot have faith. This is as simple as ABC! But, if this in any way sounds confusing, go back and read the first two articles over and over until what this paragraph says makes total sense.

**Now we come to the hard part.** All of this depends on us being able to hear the voice of God and know that it is Him speaking. This is where many struggle because you will not hear His voice in your ear and He will not put thoughts into your mind. (He could, but He probably won't.) Instead, He speaks to your spirit. He is a Spirit and so are you. That is why He speaks to you in the spiritual realm and not the physical realm.

Because people don't understand this, many will claim that God has never spoken to them. They say this because they have never heard a voice with their ear. Yet, when I ask them why they decided to come to Christ, they respond by telling me that it was just something they "knew" they needed to do. Hmm...I wonder why? How did they "know"? Who told them?

I was talking about this once with a man in my congregation who said that for him, the Lord's voice took the form of a "knowing" deep inside. It wasn't a knowing in his head, but rather a "knowing" in his spirit (in his heart). This is exactly the wording that

people use when talking about why they decided to come to Christ. They just "knew." Others have referred to it as a "gut feeling" deep inside.

Call it what you like, it is how we hear God's voice. What I have found so interesting is what happens the moment when my brain becomes aware of what I am feeling deep inside. My brain usually does not like the things I am feeling. I have learned to obey even if my brain is protesting!

### **1 Corinthians 2:14 (LEB)**

"But the natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him...."

Because they have never been taught, many teens often have a hard time learning to hear God's voice. I have a grandchild who told me that God had never spoken to him. I asked him, "Why did you ask Christ into your heart?" He looked at me rather strangely as if to say, "What kind of question is that?" Then he gave me the typical answer; he said, "I just knew I needed to." I then asked him, "How did you know?" After a few moments he started to smile, and acknowledged that it was probably because God spoke that into his heart.

Some time later, he was faced with making a very important decision. After prayer, he made up his mind as to what he was going to do. However, on the way to carry out his decision, he got a strong "feeling" that what he was about to do was a mistake. He followed that feeling and avoided making a mistake that would have had a profound, negative impact upon his young life.

I hope you are starting to catch on to what I am saying because it is one of the most important things you will ever learn. It will lead you down a path of many miracles. It will result in you being able to see the amazing, abundant provision of God resting upon your life. You will see God use you again and again. Over and over you will stand in amazement at what you just saw God do.

## "How Faith Works" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

I know this because it has been the story of my life. Again and again, my wife and I have shaken our heads in amazement at something God did. I can honestly say that not a week goes by without us seeing something that we can only describe as a miracle. But everything He does fits a very predictable pattern. He speaks, we hear, we obey, and miracles follow. That is how faith works!

By now I hope you are saying to yourself, "I want that kind of life." Well, I want you to know, you can have it. It is available to all who have asked Christ into their life. But there is something I need to tell you; if you want it, you have to live every day listening for His voice. You can't wait until you need something from God to start asking Him to speak to you about your situation. It won't work.

This is probably the number one reason people have such a hard time getting guidance from God. They have very little intimate, quiet time with Him and yet expect to hear from Him. They want to tell Him when to speak, and when not to speak. In fact, some even try to tell Him what to speak! Good luck with that.

But if you are serious about this and are ready to get started, I will offer some advice that I know will help you. You need to start by making a commitment to do whatever God tells you to do. You will listen for His voice 24/7 and do what He says even if your brain tells you it is crazy. Now remember, God does not speak by putting a thought in your head. He speaks by putting a "knowing" in your spirit. Commit to do what you "know" God wants you to do.

Now I am going to tell you a good place to start doing this. You need to start in the area of your finances. I do not know of anything else in life that will teach you to hear and recognize the voice of God more quickly than giving just because He told you to. I have often said that if a man can hear God's voice telling him to give his money away, he will be able to hear God in all other areas of his life.

It is total folly to think that you can become skillful at hearing the voice of God, but then expect Him to stay out of certain areas where you don't want His input. Remember, you are dealing with God, and you can't dictate to Him where He is

welcome and where He is not. Don't bother trying, it won't work.

This is one area where I had a great advantage. I pastored a church with a budget of nearly \$10,000,000 a year. Many, many times God would speak to my heart and tell me to give to a certain ministry. Because of this, I became very skillful at discerning His voice. **In fact, giving was the main way I learned to hear His voice.**

I don't want you to think that giving church money away was the only time I heard from God. I applied this same thing to our personal finances. A little over a year before I retired, I bought something I had always wanted; I bought a sports car. This was not just any sports car. This was a Mercedes Benz AMG 320 turbocharged hardtop convertible. It was one "nasty" car! I loved that car!!

About a year after we retired, I was sitting in church one Sunday when I heard the voice of the Lord. No, I did not hear it in my ear. No, I did not have a thought just "pop" into my head. I became aware of a "knowing" deep in my belly that I was to give my car to the church. The church we were attending was trying to buy a new building and I knew my car was to be sold and the money given to the church. **I did not give to get.** I gave as an act of obedience and cannot begin to tell you the joy that filled my heart the first Sunday we walked into that new building.

The voice I heard in church that Sunday was the same voice I had heard a thousand times before. I recognized it; there was no doubt about it. It was the same voice I had heard years before when God told me to liquidate my IRA just one day before one of the greatest stock market crashes in history. It was the same voice I heard when God told me to tell a dying man that God would heal him if he would just repent and turn his life over to God. It was the same voice I heard when God told me to tell a fall-down drunk man that God would sober him instantly if he would allow me to pray for him. Every time I did what God told me to do, a miracle followed, and I want you to know...

**Miracles are waiting for you!**



## A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA



### ***“I AM NOT ASHAMED!”***

We always enjoy our yearly vacation to Maui. It is such a special place and we are so grateful to God for making it possible for us

to vacation there. There are so many photo ops, shopping ops, and dining choices that it never gets old. However, believe it or not, my fondest memory this year is not any of these.

My fondest memory is of something that happened one day at the beach. We had set up our beach chairs in the shade of a large tree and were enjoying watching a young family sitting out on the sand about forty feet in front of us. They had two girls and a boy. One of the girls obviously was in her own world, twirling and jumping with grace and beauty in the sand.

After a while mom and her girls came walking by us. My husband asked the girl that had been dancing if she was part of a dance troupe. At first, she was hesitant to talk with a stranger, but with mom's approval, she quickly began to share her love for dance. She was so sweet. We talked for about ten minutes and then they continued on their way.

After they left my husband said, "I'll bet they are believers." When they returned, he asked them if they were and with no hesitation, the mother told us their story. They attend an Evangelical Presbyterian church in California, but wanted to have their

children baptized in the ocean while on vacation. They found a Baptist pastor who agreed to baptize them, and that weekend all their children had been baptized. It was so neat finding total strangers who now felt like family. **These Presbyterians loved Jesus and were not ashamed of it!**

The story does not end there. A few days later we were walking in a tourist area that is lined with shops full of jewelry, souvenirs, tee shirts, and delicious snacks that no human should ever eat. We walked into one store and were greeted by the sound of contemporary Christian music. We shared how much it meant to us to find a store that boldly proclaimed their faith. They were Baptists, so we shared about the family we met on the beach. To our surprise, the owners of this store had been at the service where this family was baptized! We all rejoiced together. **These Baptists loved Jesus and were not ashamed of it!**

One of my greatest joys is when we meet people that are not ashamed of the Lord Jesus Christ. Wherever we go we find people of all ages who love the Lord with all their heart and are not ashamed of it. Last fall we were hiking and met three sweet gals who were college students from Ohio State University. They were so full of joy. As they turned to continue their hike, one of them said, "God bless you." We stopped them and asked, "Are you Christians?" They got big smiles on their faces and together we all began to praise the Lord. They said that they were sure we had to be believers. **These young college students loved Jesus and were not ashamed of it!**

# "I AM NOT ASHAMED!"

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

### Psalm 34:5 (ESV)

"Those who look to him are radiant, **and their faces shall never be ashamed.**"

We are living in a time when some Christians are afraid to share their faith because Christianity has been put down. Any opinion, no matter how wicked and vile, is allowed to be proclaimed in schools, publications, and broadcasts. Yet, if a Christian voices their convictions, they are accused of being unloving and bigoted. This is a time when we all need to be reminded of the words of Paul.

### Romans 1:16 (TPT)

"I **refuse to be ashamed** of sharing the wonderful message of God's liberating power unleashed in us through Christ! For I am thrilled to preach that everyone who believes is saved—the Jew first, and then people everywhere!"

This should be the theme verse of all those who call themselves Christians. How thrilling it was to hear President Trump, during his "State of the Union" address, speak about the Christian principles our nation was founded on, things he personally believes, and then end by saying, "God bless America." I admire this man more than any other president in my lifetime. **He is not ashamed!**

During the Last Supper, Jesus told Peter that he would deny him three times before the rooster crowed the next morning. Following the arrest of Jesus, Peter did just that. But something happened in Peter's life that changed him forever, and he became unashamed of his Lord and Savior! We read of his boldness on the day of Pentecost, and also on the day he and John were brought before the Jewish High Court.

### Acts 4:13 (AMP)

"Now when the men of the Sanhedrin (Jewish High Court) saw the confidence and boldness of Peter and John, and grasped the fact that they were uneducated and untrained [ordinary] men, they were astounded, and began to recognize that they had been with Jesus."

One of my strongest desires is to be unashamed of the "Gospel of Jesus Christ," and to be led and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim that I have been with Jesus. And just like Peter, Jesus has changed my life! Yes, He is still changing lives today and I am not ashamed to boldly proclaim it. It is the true message of the Gospel. Any other message is not the true message of the Gospel.

Some will not like that, of this I am sure, but that is OK. Jesus said, "Beware when all men speak well of you." I seek only His approval and none other.

### 2 Timothy 1:12 (KJV)

"For the which cause I also suffer these things: **nevertheless I am not ashamed:** for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

## YES, THERE IS A REMNANT WHO REFUSE TO BE ASHAMED



# P R O P H E C Y   U P D A T E

## “Obscure Prophecy Fulfilled!”

The Bible has a number of well-known prophecies that receive much attention as the time for their fulfillment draws near. These include teachings about the second coming of Christ and events of the last days right before His return. However, even more exciting is when obscure prophecies are actually fulfilled right before our eyes. I always feel that their fulfillment should be brought to the attention of our readers. Just such an event happened recently and I want you to know about it. But first some background information.

In Genesis 49, before his death, Jacob blessed his sons. According to Wikipedia, the territory Zebulun was given had the Sea of Galilee as its eastern border, and the Mediterranean Sea as its western border. Later, when Moses was about to die, he also spoke a blessing over each of the twelve tribes. What he spoke over the tribe of Zebulun is the focus of our attention in this article.

### **Deuteronomy 33:18-19 (ASV)**

“And of Zebulun he said, Rejoice, Zebulun, in thy going out; And, Issachar, in thy tents.

**19 ...For they shall suck the abundance of the seas, And the hidden treasures of the sand.”**

This obscure prophecy lay mostly unnoticed for thousands of years until 2010, when Noble Energy announced the discovery of a gigantic oil and gas field off the coast of Israel in the Mediterranean. Today the prophecy Moses spoke concerning Israel “**sucking abundance from the sea**” has literally come to pass.

But that is only half of what Moses spoke. Moses also said there were “**hidden treasures in the sand.**” Because half of what Moses spoke has now been fulfilled, a company called Shefa Yamim was formed with the intention of locating precious stones and gems in Israel.

Based upon Deuteronomy 33, the company focused their efforts along the Kishon riverbed in the Zebulun Valley, at the foot of the Carmel Mountain Range just 20 miles southeast of Haifa. In 2018 their efforts were rewarded with the discovery of a previously unknown gemstone.

In January of this year, the International Mineralogical Association officially recognized this new gemstone. The mineral is embedded in sapphire and is named Carmeltazite for the Carmel Mountains, the location of its discovery. It will be marketed under the name “Carmel Sapphire.” The largest stone the company has found to date weighed in at a whopping 33.3 carats. **After density testing, it was shown to be harder than diamond.**

Avi Taub, CEO of Shefa Yamim, said in a statement, “**In today’s world where the prices of gems are determined predominantly by their rarity, the Carmel Sapphire is a unique discovery because it has not been found anywhere else in the world.**”

The quantity of Carmeltazite hidden under the Carmel Mountains is still unknown, but if it is sufficiently rare, **it may prove to be more valuable than diamonds.** The company’s business model is “mine-to-market.” Shefa Yamim will not only mine the stones, but they will also produce a line of jewelry made from Holy Land gemstones drawn exclusively from their own mines. The jewelry will be designed by Yossi Harari, a world-famous designer of fine jewelry.

It is so exciting to see a prophecy from the Bible fulfilled in our lifetime. Once again, I stand in awe and amazement as I observe undeniable proof of the existence of God and the obvious fact that the Bible is divinely inspired by God.

**Make the Bible your roadmap for life!**

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH