



HOPE OF GLORY MINISTRIES

Fall/Winter 2002

The Storms of Life

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Have you experienced any "storms" in your life recently? As I talk to many Christians I am hearing that they are facing the trials of this world. Jesus said, "In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). The storms of life come against us in many areas. They can be in our marriage, our family, our finances, our jobs, sickness, evil acts of violence that are rapidly increasing in our country, and the list goes on and on. There are storms that our enemy, the devil, initiates; but there are also storms that our Lord leads us into that our faith would be tested and proved genuine to the glory of God. In 1 Peter 1:6 we read, "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ". I believe that there are trials in our lives orchestrated by God that we may see our

insufficiency to deliver ourselves from them so that we can see the total sufficiency of Christ to deliver us in glorious victory! In Matthew 14:22-24 we read, "Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary." We see in these scriptures that Jesus led the disciples into the storm while He went up on the mountain by himself to pray. In the Gospel according to Mark we read his account in Chapter 6:47-48, "Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land. Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them". Here we see that it was evening, and we know that it was also dark (John 6:17) and it was probably about 8 p.m. I believe the "dark" is symbolic of the storms in our lives which can represent the "dark seasons" that we will walk through even as "children of light" (Eph. 5:8). But as we keep our eyes on

Jesus and our ears tuned to His voice we know that He is faithful to come to us in our darkest hour. In Matt. 10:27 Jesus says, "Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops". I also love the fact that the disciples were in the middle of the sea. This means it was just as far to turn back as it was to strain ahead. If they had just been a small distance from shore, would they have turned around and gone home? I know that I sure would have been tempted to do so. But in the Lord's sovereignty He had them in the middle of the sea of Galilee and tested their faith to see if they would give up in the midst of this trial or would they press on and strain ahead to the destination Jesus had instructed them to go. It is so easy to ask where the Lord is when we are in our storms. We say, "Lord don't you see what I am going through down here?" In Mark 6:48 we read, "He saw them straining at rowing..." That encourages me so much to know the Lord is watching over us at all times and in all circumstances. The Lord had His eyes on the disciples the whole time. Do you know that as a Christian you are the "apple of His eye"? The disciples were "straining at rowing" but they never gave up.

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To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all His energy, which so powerfully works in me.

COLOSSIANS 1:27-29

Continued from Page 1

I believe they kept rowing in obedience to the command of Jesus to go before Him to the other side. I want you to know whatever storms you may face that Jesus is watching over you and He is seated at the right hand of God the Father and is interceding for you as your Mediator and High Priest. Hallelujah! Whatever you do—don't give up in the storm. Keep your oars in the water and keep rowing. Press into Jesus, fight the good fight of faith, don't quit because Jesus is coming to you and will deliver you to your destination. In Matthew 14:25 we read, "Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea". The fourth watch would have been between 3 & 6 a.m., which means the disciples would have been at this rowing for about 7 hours. But the good news is that Jesus not only had His eyes on them but He "went to them". Please understand that the most fierce storms in life cannot keep Jesus from coming to His children—those He calls by name. Your family may not come, your friends may

not come, your neighbors, co-workers and God forbid, but your Pastor may not come, but you can count on Jesus to come and be "a very present help in trouble" (Ps. 46:1). I believe He came in the fourth watch just before sunrise because His mercies are new every morning and He is our Bright and Morning Star. Jesus spoke to them in Matthew 14:27, "Be of good cheer! I am here; do not be afraid". Do not be fearful in your storm. Fear will immobilize and paralyze you spiritually. In 2 Timothy 1:7 we read, "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and of a sound mind". FEAR is false evidence appearing real. Do not exchange God's truth for the lies of the devil. And then we read in John 6:21, "Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going". Please don't get angry with God in your storm and miss the revelation of Him drawing near. Be expectant that He is coming to you, keep your eyes on Him and willingly receive Him when He comes to

"Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going" (John 6:21)

deliver you into total victory! They immediately (the Greek word here literally means with no passing of time) reached their destination. God has a destiny for your life (Jer. 29:11) and "He who has begun a good work in you will complete it" (Phil. 1:6).

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. (2 Cor. 13:14)

*Love in Christ,
Clark Stallings*

Fresh Fire & Miracle Crusade (December 4-6)

Ron Smith is a Pastor of First Independent Methodist Church in Eatonton, Georgia. In 1993 he and his wife attended a meeting in Lakeland, Florida where they had a mighty encounter with the Holy Spirit. Since then, miracles, signs and wonders have been flowing through his church and ministry. It is his heart's desire to see other churches and pastors touched with this same anointing and power and to see churches move in the miraculous.

He visited with us and ministered during Norman Robertson's recent crusade. Pastor Smith will join us again December 4-6, 2002. You may read his testimony at www.fimcriver.com, or you may contact him at 706-485-4000.

The Lord said, "Those who hunger and thirst...shall be filled." God is pouring out His Spirit in a new and fresh way all over the earth. Blessed be His Holy Name!

We want to say "thank you" to everyone for your prayers and gifts as they make it possible for us to fulfill our mission that God has called us to. May God richly bless you!

SERVICE TIMES FOR FRESH FIRE CRUSADE:

Dec. 4: 7 PM

Dec 5: 10 AM & 7 PM

(Pastor Smith will host a complimentary luncheon for all area pastors at 12:30 PM on this day)

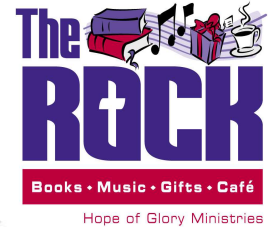
Dec 6: 10 AM & 7 PM

God's Gracious Gift (a Food, Furniture, & Clothing Outreach)

God is gracious. Jesus Christ is our Gift. He is the Giver of all good things. Please be in prayer about this most needed ministry outreach. Since God is so gracious to us, according to His Word, we must be gracious one to another. Again, I ask you to join us in prayer agreeing that God's Gracious Gift will be forthcoming. In Ezekiel 34:26, God says, "I will make them and the places all around My hill a blessing; and I will cause showers to come down in their season; there shall be showers of blessing".

USED BOOK OUTREACH

Your used Christian books may be a huge blessing to someone else! These books will be made available for check-out and hopefully be a valuable tool in helping some-



It's looking a lot like Christmas at The

You are invited to join us during our Holiday Open House on **November 8th & 9th**. We have wonderful selections for all areas of your gift-giving as well as food for the soul.

Topping the charts at Number One in reading this month...."Let's Roll", by Lisa Beamer. Bruce Wilkinson has the Number Two slot with his new book, "The Life God Rewards".

We want all our customers to know from the bottom of our hearts we are grateful to you for your contributions, love, and support. You are always important here and your needs are our joy to supply. We praise God for each of you! Have a blessed Holiday Season and celebrate the greatest gift of all—Jesus Christ!

RECOMMENDED READING

"Israel, God and America" by David Stein.

David is a Messianic Jew who was called back to his homeland to teach the prophetic word in these end times. This book will enlighten many who are searching for answers as to what, where and how God is working and moving in the world today.

"Next to the Holy Bible, this is the best book I have read in my 7 1/2 years of walking with Jesus"

Clark Stallings



The Bookstore will be open the following hours during the Holidays (Starting Nov. 29 thru Dec. 21):

Mon-Thurs: 10am—6pm

Fri: 10am-9pm

Sat: 10am-6pm

Sun: Closed

[We will be closed Nov. 28 and Dec. 24, 25, & 26]

What's new in Music?

The ones you've been waiting for are in!

Michael W. Smith's Worship Video and DVD, and also — hot off the press—"Worship Again"!

In addition to these, we have "Spoken For", by Mercy Me, "Truth, Soul, and Rock -n- Roll", by The Elms, "Hi-Fi Revival", by the Supertones, and a new Christmas release - "Black and White", by Nicole Mullen. These and many more are already flying out of the store—and oh, yes—"WOW Christmas" is in too!

.....**MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....**

**Date: SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 23**

Time: 9:00 AM

Please join us for the premiering of the 3rd movie of the Larryboy series, "The Yodalnapper". The Covenant Church Kid's Praise Team will be leading worship. Donuts and drinks will be served.

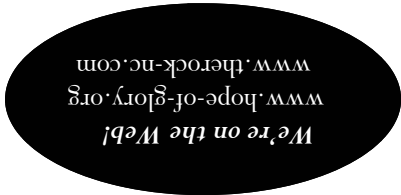
Call us at 756-5546 or come by The Rock to pre-register. See ya soon!



Kid's.... We have a special Storytime at The Rock every 2nd & 4th Saturday at 11:30 AM

How's the Coffeehouse coming along?

Weeeeeell, the coffeehouse is presently running on decaf (a.k.a. God's time, not ours). Just as decaf coffee is much healthier for our bodies—God's timing is always better than our own. ☺ We have had a very generous donation toward the exciting vision of The Burning Bush Café & Coffeehouse, but it will take \$425,000.00 more to make this vision come to fruition. God doesn't tell us that He will SHOW us the way—but that "I AM THE WAY". We know as long as we are sticking close to Him we will be right on track! We have learned so much about God, His provision, His plans, and His love throughout this adventure—we look forward to sharing the testimony with you one day. If you would like to know more about the coffeehouse vision and details please visit our website (www.burningbushcafe.com) or email us with any questions at burningbushcafe@aol.com. Until then we remain in prayer and awe at The Bush.



Phone: 252-321-6857
Fax: 252-756-1416
Email: prayer@hope-of-glory.org

4052 Old Tar Road
Winterville, NC 28590



Hope of Glory now has a Praise Team!

MISSION STATEMENT

To stand in the gap between our community of believers and the church, and between the church and the lost. We will come alongside these three groups to proclaim the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ and minister through Christian resources, evangelism, discipleship and community outreach.

Upcoming Ministry Events:

- Worship Service every Thursday @ 7 p.m.
- Monthly Pastor's Appreciation Luncheon
- **Nov. 29 (7PM):** *A Night to Remember Gospel Tour*—featuring artists: Scott Bircher, Mel Holder, Vanessa Daniels, & special guest (tickets: \$15 advance, \$17.50 at door, \$12 for groups of 10 or more). Promoted by: A Closer Walk Productions
- **Dec. 4-6 :** Fresh Fire & Miracle Crusade (details listed on pg. 2)

Prayer Requests:

- Powerful move of God's Spirit in all ministry services
- Mighty wall of protection surrounding ministry, staff, and volunteers
- New partners to prayerfully and financially support our mission
- Grants to be received to seed "God's Gracious Gift" Outreach
- God's plan for a women's luncheon targeting homemakers
- Ministry to be debt-free

The following needs have been met since the last newsletter:

- Projector
- Projector Screen
- Microphones/stands
- Volunteer to run Sound Board
- Copier for Ministry Center
- Keyboard
- Carpet Cleaned

Praise be to God who supplies all our need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus! (Phil. 4:19)

Needs:

- Laptop with PowerPoint software
- Powered Floor Speaker
- Commercial Vacuum Cleaner
- Volunteers to help in cleaning and maintenance of facilities and grounds