

Apostolic Brotherhood International

Newsletter August 2015

Most of you know I have had some medical problems. From being a mountain climber a few years back to barely being able to walk at times now. I have needed to use a cane for a while, but I look on it as the blessings of God because of what it has done in my life. I have spent so much more time studying than I could have any other way. I have published one book, and written much more. I not only want to praise God in my infirmity, but if He doesn't heal me, I want to praise Him for my infirmity. I want the attitude that turned a deceiver into a prince with God.

Hebrews 11:21 "By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, *leaning* upon the top of his staff." In the midst of the faith chapter we see something that at first perplexed me as far as God what are you telling me, and then spoke deeply to me, especially the phrase "and worshipped leaning upon the top of his staff". The staff was a simple shepherd's tool, used in many ways to contain and channel the animals. Jacob was by trade a shepherd so having a staff was completely normal. But, something happened in the life of Jacob that changed completely the use of the staff for him.

When Jacob left Haran to return to the land of promise, he was a very rich man. By this time he was more of a manager of servants than actually being a shepherd any longer. His life had changed many times, from his father's house where he had sat on knees of Grandpa Abraham and heard about faith, through the times of wrestling with his brother to get the upper hand and the things he wanted. He had run in fear for his life, and seen his first glimpse of promise in his own life as God showed him a vision, and promised to bring him back to the land. He had worked as an indentured servant (translate slave), and found himself on the receiving end of the slight and deceit that had marked his life up to then. He had been blessed of God with great increase of flocks, herds and kids.

Now he was returning to Canaan with the same fear for his life that he had had when he left it. He had carefully divided all that he had, and he sent presents ahead to his brother to beg forgiveness of 20 year old wrongs. But the biggest thing he had to face, came in the form of the angel of the LORD himself. He wrestled with Him all night. It wasn't Esau that was really keeping him from the land, but his own relationship with God that needed to be addressed first. How many times do I prepare for and struggle with secondary things, and not the true issue. If I would just fall on my face before the LORD then everything else will work itself out. By the end of the night Jacob was wanting one more touch from God, one more blessing. God gave it to him; He crippled him.

God touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh and he was a cripple from that day forward. Jacob, his name even changed by the experience to Israel, entered into the land of promise, made peace with his brother Esau, and settled into his inheritance and relationship with God, always bearing the marks of God's touch. His staff was now a crutch that he needed to walk. He had struggled for years to gain the favor of God by his own hand, now he accepted the crippling of God realizing it was a greater blessing to be in his presence as a cripple, than anything else he had ever strived for. I strive for things I don't understand and then when I find the true value, it is not what I was looking for. Jacob worshipped leaning upon his staff; Can I worship, truly worship God, for the things that the world will look at me as a cripple, but I realize is the mercy of God on my life.

I carry many scars of life, most of them at my own doing. God has been very good to me. I realize now some of His greatest blessings are not the things, or the increases, but the times he has touch my soul and left His imprint on my life. I love Him more now than ever. I want to worship not like I am perfect, but from a true heart. If I need a staff, maybe I can't stand strong and lift both hands to the LORD, maybe they need to cling to a staff, but I'll worship Him, and lift up the best I can, maybe not strong, but holy hands. It means so much

more to God to be true than to worship trying to be like everyone else. Oh Jesus, touch me again. Leave a lasting imprint upon me, whatever the price, and let me learn to always worship in it.

Brother Ernie Fowler, ABI Minister

Camp Meeting & General Conference 2015 Highlights....Photos of all services are posted to our FaceBook page

What a Glorious Move of God took place at Camp Meeting & General Conference 2015. We were all blessed to hear some powerful anointed preaching. This year during Business Meeting the ABI present three new Ministers with their License: Brother James Tolson of Rogers AR, Brother Steven Nelms of Crossett AR and Bro. Jesse Carlos of East Los Angeles CA. Additionally we recognized the prior Ordination of Bro. Kevin Moss of New Richmond Wisconsin.

We were all blessed to hear such powerful and anointed preaching in each and every service. Some of the speakers were (in no particular order): Bro. Rasor, Bro. Carlos, Bro. Tolson, Bro. Moss, Bro. Adams. Our closing service was preached by Bishop Cathey.

This year we were blessed to be to hold an Ordination Service for Bro. Mike Rasor. The service was very powerful and moving conducted by Bishop Cathey with all the Brethren Laying Hands on Bro. Rasor and the Ladies Laying hands on Sis. Rasor.

This year's Camp Meeting had a powerful Youth Service and Bro. Curtis Moss (a member of the ABI Youth himself) of Wisconsin preached a powerful message. On top of that we had Youth & Family actives; Go Carts, Laser Tag, Miniature Golf and Bowling. It was a wonderful time had by all.

Amendment #8 was passed with a 100% approval by the Brethren at this year's Business Meeting. The amendment passed by the Brethren/Ministers of the ABI in Camp Meeting 2015. The amendment states the following:

The Doctrinal Teachings of the Apostolic Brotherhood International regarding Holy Matrimony.

Since the very inception of the Church of the Living God the Bible has made it clear that Marriage is a lifelong commitment between One Man and One Women. This is clear throughout all of Holy Scripture, both the Old and New Testament. The Bible Defines Marriage in many places including but not limited to (as stated in the Holy Bible - King James Version) the following: Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:5, Ephesians 5:31. Furthermore through God Holy Word we are given instructions regarding the relationship of Husband and wife. This is made clear in Ephesians 5:22-27.

Therefore we take a stand on Holy Scripture and state the following: our unequivocal position about God's design and foundation for mankind, the biblical mandate for marriage to be between one man and one woman through the bonds of matrimony and that it is the only acceptable means of procreation, habitation and the establishment of the family.

The Ministers of the Apostolic Brotherhood International are therefore prohibited by God Word and this Governing Body to Perform or Participate in any Wedding Ceremony or Blessing that is in direct contradiction to the Word of God.

Also this year the Executive Board met and approved the application of Brother Grimm. Please join us in welcoming him and his family to the ABI!

Meeting and conversations are already taking place to work out all the details for Camp Meeting and General Conference 2016. Once those plans are finalized we will announce that information to you all.

Announcements:

Grow The ABI With Us: Do you know a fellow minister looking for Fellowship? We are always eager to find ministers of like, precious faith who are looking for a place of healing, belonging, and fellowship. We believe that through this network of ministers we each help to make the other stronger and more effective in God's Kingdom. You can obtain a copy of the application for License/Ordination for the ABI by going to our website, apostolicbrotherhood.org. If you know someone needing a paper copy please contact Bishop Cathey or Brother Adams for a paper copy.

ABI Evangelists: Please let Bishop Cathey or Brother Adams know when and where you will be preaching. Whether you are preaching one service or a Multi-Day/Night Revival we would like to help get the word out. We want to do everything we can to help make your ministry a success. We will be happy to promote the Revival you are preaching on our FaceBook page, Twitter & in our Newsletter.

Revivals & Church Events: If you have any events that you would like to include in the monthly newsletter please contact Brother Adams by the 25th of the month to insure it is published in upcoming following issue. If you have an event you would like announced on our FaceBook page or Twitter please contact Brother Adams as well

ABI Website: Our Webpage has been updated and will now have a link to Newsletters. Also our Webpage has been updated to add information for Camp Meeting & other events going on around the ABI. Please stop by and take a look at the page & see all the wonderful things the ABI is doing.

ABI Web Page: apostolicbrotherhood.org

Be sure to "Like" us on FaceBook. Follow us on Twitter @ApostolicBI

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