

THE SHOUT OF A KING

L A R R Y H E R N D O N

THE SHOUT OF A KING

T H E P R O O F O F L O V E



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To the One who has dedicated everything of Himself to helping me become who He created me to be. To the One who shouted victory over my life before I did anything good or bad. To the One whose eyes are always on me, whose voice never quits speaking to my heart, whose thoughts of me are as countless as are the stars, to the One who while hanging on a cross for my sins said of me on my worst day, "I am satisfied." To the One who has my name carved into His hands. To the One who valued me more than Himself and set my true worth by His willingness to die for me, thank you, Lord Jesus, to the Holy Spirit who has brought me to remembrance all along this journey of Jesus, and to my Father who sent Him in for me, praise You forever and ever. I can hear you, Lord, even now crying out to all who have an ear to hear. Oh listen to the shout of the King, "It is finished."



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PREFACE

I have written this to silence the voice that speaks to us all, that prideful voice that speaks in this way, “If I do something good, God will see it and do something good for me.” This is not the voice of faith; it is the voice of self-centeredness, self-focus, self-reliance, independence, and foolish human pride. Father God needs nothing from us, nothing! But He has given us everything we need and more, but it can only be received by faith, and faith speaks.

What does faith say? Can it speak? Does it have a voice? It is 2 Corinthians 4:13, “I believed, therefore have I spoken.” Romans 10:6 says this, “But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise.” Righteousness is of faith or of works—one of God’s grace, the other based on weak human works. But both have voices, one boasts on its accomplishments and the other speaks of Jesus and His finished works. For if they are not finished, faith has no voice at all. Faith does not ask Jesus to come down; it declares He already has! Faith does not ask God to do something; it believes He already has done it, and it receives. As I write this book, I wonder at how it will change hearts and then lives. If it does, then your voice and words will also change. And if they change, then so will the world about you, for the world we see was formed with words of faith, “And God said, Light be!” What will your words say you believe?

It was a shout no one could hear. It is written of in the story of Balaam and Balak,

He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel; the Lord his God is with him, and the shout of a king is among them. (Numbers 23:21)

How could they hear a shout when there was no audible voice? And how could God say that He saw no sin or perverseness in Israel? How could he say God was with them when He is invisible? Oh surely this is the same unheard voice that was with them in a pillar of fire and in a cloud that led these Hebrews from slavery and bondage in Egypt toward the land of God's *promise*, but there are no spoken words recorded. But this man named Balaam had just said that he could only say what he heard from God, even as this evil king named Balak sought out Balaam to pronounce a curse upon these Hebrews who crossed into his country. Oh yes, in the verse just before this one, Balaam instructed Balak that God was not a man and that what He had spoken He would indeed do, He would not lie nor change His mind. If He says it, He means it! And He will make it good, He will do it. But Balak could not and would not hear these words. They were recorded for us. Wow! God is the same today as yesterday, and if then, forever! He means what He says, but do we ever fully grasp it? Who can grasp these three words, who can understand the meanings, who can see this power and not be changed? Oh hear the Words of Life from the One who lives forever, "It is finished."

This is a story about Jesus, in fact every story is about Jesus for me. If it is not, I have lost sight of my Savior, I have fallen from grace. For grace is Who Jesus is, Jesus I mean, He is the grace of God come down, and He is the Word of God fulfilled and being fulfilled in us. When we fall from this height sometimes, we are not even aware how far we have fallen from it until we are again looking at the Lord Jesus fully, I mean head-on. Oh sure we see Him dimly at times, through darkened glasses, but then

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face-to-face, and oh how beautiful He is. Grace is face-to-face, eye to eye, and heart to heart. No man can see God, but we see Him clearly in Jesus. Jesus is the exact image of His Father. The Bible tells us (1 John 3:2) that “now” we are the sons of God, and that and it does not “yet” appear what we shall be, but that “when” we see Him, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him *as He is*. I italicized those last three words for a reason; it is written in 1 John 4:17 for us to gaze into and ponder, “Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because *as He is*, so are we in this world” (Italics mine).”

There are those three little words again, *as He is*. But “as He is” is referencing a current event, not some far and away futuristic one, for it says, “in this world.” It also is not addressing some past event. It is a now word for the church. It is because the brightness of His glory is too much for the natural eyes but not for the eyes of the Spirit. How do you see Jesus now? Is it still about us or is it all about Jesus? When will we stop trying to conform Jesus to us and be conformed to Him, as He is? This is a journey to bring our love to an “it is finished” state. Having our love made perfect means brought into a completed or finished state. It is a place where we see Jesus and forget whom we once were. It is seeing Jesus in every situation life throws at us. There are many places where Jesus is clearly revealed “as He is” the Son of God, but few could see Him in this way. Even His own family were blinded by natural sight; what they beheld in the natural made seeing Him in the Spirit or “as He is” impossible for them. This is what Romans 8:6 means then, “To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.” It is looking to this world or looking to God, not both. Faith does not deny what the natural eyes see; it instead sees what the Word says and speaks from that heart faith.

Some say seeing is believing; faith says believe and you will see. The Hebrews always sought after “signs” for proof. It was always a sign-seeking event when Jesus showed up even if they

had just watched Him do a miracle that no one could do but God Himself. It seems almost an impossible thing to consider that a person could watch Jesus raise a man dead for four days to life again but still be a doubter or one who needs a sign. But what about us? Oh yeah we read this stuff in our Bibles but dare we believe it, even what Jesus said of us so long ago? Jesus said that there would be signs following “those who believe,” and so it must be. Are there signs following your faith in Jesus? Is there fruit under your tree? Or are we going to be those who still need some sign to believe that Jesus cannot lie and will not change His mind? How long will we hide behind pew number 4 in the church? How long will we masquerade our doubts and condemn the world as we do it? Help us believe, Lord! The only way the Word will change us is if we believe it. Are we still seeking for proof of love? Can we say, “I have heard the shout of my King,” and I believe Him?

I want to share this with you before we even begin to start this journey. There was a day in my life when I could not hear the shout of my King; it was a very tough time in our lives as we had just lost our youngest son in a boating accident. I had always known “about” God and Jesus, I had been saved and baptized in the church, I had been instructed by those who taught about Jesus, but I did not know Him as I do now. During this time, Jesus made Himself known to me by a revelation all believers need to have; I heard His voice. You may say that this is not possible, but I share this because it is. And if I can hear His voice, so can you. I needed to hear from Jesus, and I cried out to Him many, many times. But often my cry was this one, “If You can hear me, answer me.” It was a cry all right, but one of doubt. Jesus said it this way, “My sheep will hear my voice.” “I will be in you and you will know it.” But how will I know it? Here is the shortened version of this whole event. I heard His voice from within, in my heart, and not with my ears that hear on the outside. For either He is in us, or He is not! And if He is in us, then we will hear His voice.

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But let me say this, it is a time to quiet our spirits, our hearts must be silent, and our minds must take a rest from questioning Him. It is as it is written, “Be still and *know* that I am God.” And when I gave Him a moment to speak, He did! And my life has never been the same. Colossians 1:27 became more than just words to me, “Christ in us the hope of glory.” It became my life, He became more than just a story to me, more than just words in a book, and I found Him in my own heart where He had always been. Oh how ashamed I was when I first heard His words, but instead of a good scolding, He brought peace into my life, calm to the storm that encompassed me, light into the darkness that surrounded us, and hope where none could be found. I heard the unspoken shout of my King, and His words changed my life forever.

If there is a shout of a King in our camp, then we have been declared by Father God as those whose sins and iniquities are not visible to Him, for in Christ Jesus all sin has been paid for by Jesus and through His perfect blood. His resurrection proclaims this truth, for if Jesus is not raised from the dead, as Paul so said in 1 Corinthians 15:17, “your faith is in vain, you remain in your sins.” What else can that mean? And yet even as “our” King is shouting to us, we doubt this truth and live in a bondage again to the laws no one ever could keep! We still, just as did those in the days of Jesus’s earthly walk, seek after signs, even one-day yonder ones. Dare we believe the good report given, the nearly too good to believe news of the Gospel of Grace? If there is to be a shout of a King in your camp, you had better believe this is truth, for if you are even a small part of the chain needed to connect yourself to the eternal, you will be the cause of the failure and fall hard.

But a fall from grace is not a fall out of grace, but it hurts nonetheless. For you who have been teetering with the totter, I offer up a *Shout of a King*, a fresh revelation of Jesus to you for your own private consideration. I cannot change you nor would I if I could, but maybe if you were to see Jesus clearly, with an

unveiled face, with the legalistic glasses off, if you were to see Him face-to-face, you would believe. Or maybe you would just ask for another sign; I do not know. But as for me, I believe that “as He is” so am I in “this world” and then one day forever, for I too am eternal in Spirit for I have been born again of God, how about you? Why live lesser than we are? Why doubt what Jesus has already finished? Oh that there would be a shout in every encampment of God, the shout of a King, Jesus, and their sins and iniquities I will remember no more, and they all will know Me from the least to the greatest, for I will be merciful. Can you hear His shout?

As long as we have hope, it is a statement that says I will never quit looking to Jesus! Never! Hope is a confident expectation of good coming to us from the Lord we serve. But if our hope is anchored by our efforts or lack of them, what hope will we be but the weakest link in the chain. But if our hope is in Jesus, the One who overcame death and Hell itself for us, how great is that expectation. *Great Expectations* is not a book written with human hands but with the very fingers of Father God for us; it is the story of Jesus! Faith speaks what we believe, even what we hope for, Jesus is alive! But for us who live on the earth, the view is often blurred by the life we live now in this flesh house. But we who are prisoners of hope, slaves to Jesus, bondservants of His amazing grace and love and mercy, our anchor is entered into the Holy of Holies; He is holding us in the storms of life that hurl their angry winds at us. Zechariah 9:12, “Turn you to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope; even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee.” Turn your hearts to Jesus; He is our strength and our stronghold—even now, even in the face of trials and tests and troubles, He speaks His faith toward us, giving us hope in the hopelessness of this world, “I will render a double portion to you who trust in Me.” Do you know this Jesus? He is my Lord and my portion.

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Has faith come into your hearts? God has sent it already! Faith to believe and receive everything you need for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3–4), but do you know it? Can you hear it speaking to you now? Galatians 3:23 (Amplified Version) says, “Now before the faith came, we were perpetually guarded under the Law, kept in custody in preparation for the faith that was destined to be revealed (unveiled, disclosed).” Faith has come, but what does it say? Faith cannot speak until the Law is silenced by the Lamb!

There is a faith that has no salvation in it; James writes of a faith that does not save in James 2:19, “Thou believeth that there is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believe, and tremble.” Faith that speaks will speak of the power of God flowing through the life of a person with undeniable fruit. There are many who sit in churches each week and profess to believe in God but do not know Him. The fruit of a true believer is a changed heart that results in a changed life. What would others say of your life friends? Would “they” call you a follower of Jesus or a denominational credentialed person. It was Nicodemus who came to Jesus, the great teacher of Israel, and Jesus said to him, “Ye must be born again.” Christian faith is faith in Jesus, and this faith produces a new life, a changed life that has fruit, that is empowered by the Spirit from within; it is a faith that has a voice that proclaims the wonderful works of God. It is the voice of the Spirit.

What does your faith proclaim, what does it speak? “I am a follower of Jesus Christ” or “I am not a follower of Jesus Christ” or the worst one of all, “I think I am a follower of Jesus Christ.” Which one are you? Can you hear the shout of a King?



FOREWORD

Have you ever been present at a shouting contest? I have, but I was not actually a participant in it. I have often been present when words were screamed or yelled out by those of opposing views. It is kind of like that old television show “Point/Counterpoint.” Each side would take turns bashing the others points of view. Nothing was really ever accomplished, and it still is not today. Political views are almost always battled out in the headlines with separate but seemingly valid points. There are whole radio broadcasts set up for these debates that really never accomplish anything but a waste of our time. If in fact there was an answer to the problems that each claim to have the solution to, why not just begin to apply it and that would cease the battling?

No, it is much easier to just sell their points of view as a means for income based on audience participation. In other words, if we quit watching and listening, they would just go away. It is the same thing with even books and magazines which deal with views that could cause a debate—no purchases, no sales—and they just go away. I suppose that even in religious views, this is truth as well. However, when it comes to the name of Jesus, there is not enough room for all that can be written and said or spoken of Him. The “disciple whom Jesus loved” wrote this for us to see this truth better, John 21:24–25, “This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.”

It sounds as if this disciple named John, the one Jesus loved, views Jesus as I do, and as I pray you do now or will shortly. There is never enough said or written about Him who loves us so. Only in Jesus is peace a reality for this world. When we seek to change others to our opinions, we do so in hope that they will agree with us; then, we will have peace. The world calls this change. But true peace is only found in Jesus, for He is our peace. The battles over who is right and who is wrong and race issues and human beliefs is useless; it will not cease in this world. But in Christ Jesus, we have Oneness, and in that Oneness with Him, there is true *peace*. It has been declared from *heaven*; this is the will of Father God, that all should have peace, but only through the cross. In Christ, there is no racial boundaries, no economic unbalance, no gender bias—only in Jesus Christ is this possible.

I am not going to write words that are for battling views of Jesus, for these are my words and my views from how Father God by the Holy Spirit has called me to write of His Perfect Son Jesus the Christ. If you have a counterpoint, keep it. I do not write to get approval or for money, but because He stirs my very heart and soul, Jesus I mean. I can only enjoy so much time talking about this life until Jesus has to be brought into the conversation. Not so that I can be assured of my eternal placement, but because of the One who loves me, and all of us, so much. I have written several books, and according to the Word of God, until the world is filled with them, this “should be written.”

It is something that continually must be done in order to accomplish its purposes. It is an ongoing action that can never be completed. You see, as Jesus speaks to us in our lives, we must tell it to others, share it, or else we will lose it. Jesus said if He tells us something in the dark, in the night, we should proclaim it from the rooftops, and so here it is. I give to you the *Shout of the King*. Listen closely, listen for His voice, for He is, He was, and yet He will be—time cannot contain His voice nor His person. For He is the King of all kings, the Lord of all lords, and I know Him, and even better He knows me.



THE ITENERARY

The word “itinerary” means the route one takes on a journey or the proposed outline with details concerning the events to be encountered, a travel diary. It is a strange thing to consider as we look at this *Shout of a King*, especially in the book of Numbers. It is a listing of each place Israel stopped at and then moved from on their journey from Egypt all the way to the promised land and anything that may have occurred at this place. If we were to subtitle a chapter as “The Itinerary,” it would be “Numbers 33.” I find this an unusual number in that Jesus walked this earth for thirty-three years also. His life should be our itinerary on our journey.

As I slept one night, I heard in my sleep the word *Fleener*. It was a name I was familiar with, and I recalled a conversation I had with him concerning Civil War artifacts that he had collected from obscure sights. He explained how he had sent off to the Library of Congress and acquired journals that were handwritten accounts of soldiers and the places they traveled and lodged or encamped during the Civil War. At each spot where they encamped, the man in charge would write down the daily journey and where they had traveled and what they had encountered. It was compiled and sent to the next higher-ranking officer who would add in their comments and pass this on to the next higher-ranking officer until all arrived at headquarters. These written accounts then described these locations where small battles occurred and where encampments were made for days as they waited for commands or for the enemy to come. My friend then simply read of these accounts and followed along the routes

described until he came upon the area where these encampments had been as best he could determine. Only then did he use electronic devices to look for remnants and military artifacts, and he found many. I wonder of the treasures hidden for us in this story of Israel's journey.

The Lord then showed me chapter 33 in Numbers as it pertains to discovering the treasures of this journey of Israel. As my friend did not send others out to dig up any artifacts so are we not to do so. We are to dig only where we discover the hidden riches. Father God explains this better than I could,

Thou hast heard, see all this; and will not ye declare it? I have shewed thee new things from this time, even hidden things, and thou didst not know them. (Isaiah 48:6)

If Father God has led you on this journey, then it is you He has decided to reveal His hidden truths to. The digging out is ours to do once we have determined where we are to dig. This takes time and study and efforts. The rewards are priceless. I wanted these treasures, and as I saw this truth, I could see Jesus hidden in each story, and at each encampment, the story is a natural one but is filled with revelations of Christ hidden from view except to those who dig them up. But I boast not about myself. I had a really great metal detector; He is the Holy Spirit. I dug where He so pointed me. If you desire to see the Old Covenant reveal the Christ who was to come, then this journey and its details are crucial as we look for these new things hidden in the old. Mr. Fleener's house was filled with military artifacts that he had unearthed with knowledge. He did not randomly walk out into fields with hope of discovering some hidden cannonball or old gun; he did all of this with written information that described where to look first. Oh that old Bible that has so much dust on it is filled with riches that have unlimited values for us today.

This outline from Numbers 33 is crucial for anyone who is seeking to unearth the hidden treasures of the journey of Israel.

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This itinerary helped me to see many things that we all read over without ever getting even a glimpse of Who was being written of or about. The perfect picture of grace was the journey from Egypt to mount Sinai where the law was given. The failure of all under the law was revealed from Mt. Sinai all the way to the Promised Land, even to the foot of the cross. Two parallel stories where Israel rebelled and murmured and complained all the Way, but before the law, no one died. God supplied everything for them even as they complained. But once Israel presumed upon her own goodness, her own abilities, the law was given to show her that she indeed could not receive blessings based on her performance. And hidden in this journey was the life of Jesus—the manna, the quail, the rock, the water, the silver trumpets, the cloud, the pillar of fire, the passover, the seven lamps, the priestly blessings, the Nazrite vow, the tribal encampments, the order of troops, the rod of Aaron, the bronze snake, the talking donkey, the two census, and so much more are all hidden stories of Jesus who was to come. We can't look at all of them, but as we go, I know you will see Jesus.

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

Jesus revealed Himself through all the laws, through the Psalms, the prophets, and the journeys of the people with Moses; this is what Jesus said to His two disciples in Luke 24, to those on the road to Emmaus. It is the life of Christ revealed, the plans of God unveiled, that we might see His amazing grace and love and patience with us who cannot see very well. And in so seeing and understanding, hope is returned to our hearts and comfort—God is the same today, yesterday, and tomorrow. As you read along with me, see if these hidden jewels do not set your hearts ablaze. Luke 24:32, “And they said one to another, Did not our heart

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burn within us while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the scriptures?”

I wonder what is buried for us.