

# GRACE TO YOU!

GRACE FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL CHURCH - JOHN & SUE BOWERS, PASTORS MAY, 2009  
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## APOSTLE'S CORNER by Apostle John Bowers

### Come What May - Put Your Faith in God

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the Word of the God will endure forever.

Over the years many have put their faith in men or governments. Each, no matter how well intentioned, has been destined to fail. Today many are confused, dismayed or angry about the turning of events in our country. They are saying, "What shall become of us?" Others are cursing the current leadership. Either of these positions will only lead you to frustration and defeat.

Our position and assignment is to possess until Jesus comes again. We are to possess and bless. Let your faith be in God and His Word alone. What you meditate on, you will believe. What you believe, you will speak. We are to be agents of Light and Hope. Isaiah 60 tells us that though "darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people of the earth", we are to arise and shine because the Glory of God has arisen on us. We are the Light and Hope! Jesus said, "As the Father sends me into the world so send I you." So speak hope, by thinking hope and knowing the God of our Hope will never fail.

We are to be people of prophecy. Prophecy in its simplest definition is hearing God and repeating what He says to others. You have never heard the voice of God speak of hopelessness nor failure. Our God, Jehovah Jesus, cannot fail.

So look up and look inward. We are seated in heavenly places and the Greater One, the Spirit of God Himself, lives big in you who believe.

Dare to believe God. He will not, and

cannot, fail. He is all we need. He, by the Spirit of God within us, will lead us and guide us to whatever we need. Matthew 6:33 Seek you first the Kingdom of God and *His* righteousness (not yours), and all these things we have need of will be added to us.

The voice of God creates substance to replace void. It brings direction to the confused. If you are His, you hear that voice. Give it place and not the enemy.

We are ambassadors of God's Kingdom, messengers of life, hope, healing and deliverance. Be bold.

This is our finest hour. Come what may, do not dismay. Put your faith in God.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor John Bowers



**Dr. M. Leon Walters**

*Apostle/Prophet*

*Executive Vice-President, Christian International Ministries Network  
President, Christian International Central*

### The Prophet Is Coming!

Leon Walters was a successful businessman when God moved upon him in a dramatic way. The decisions made during this time ultimately launched him into full time ministry responsibilities with Bishop Hamon and Christian International. For the next ten years Leon was manager and administrator establishing CI Headquarters, CI School of Theology, helping to establish the first CI Friday Night School of the Holy Spirit, and was instrumental in the organization of the CI Prophetic seminars and conferences.

In 1988, Leon began to travel in a team ministry extensively as a representative for Christian International. They worked to establish an apostle/prophet ministry team to serve as a prototype for team ministry.

In 1992, Dr. Leon accepted the management and oversight responsibilities of the CI Central Headquarters and Training Center. Leon and Donna pastor the CI Family Worship Center. The church envisions a place for restoration and healing for ministers and church *(continued on page four)*

## PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS!

*Lord, as I go about my duties today, be with me and protect me. Let me feel the comfort of Your presence and be my strength and my shield as I go into harm's way. Protect all those with whom I serve, and let us not harm anyone innocent. Help us to protect those we have sworn to serve . . .*

This prayer was written by Barbara Lewandowski, a member of the Presidential Prayer Team. Her prayer was contributed to the **U.S. Military Pocket Prayer Book** to be prayed verbatim by the men and women of our Armed Forces. Those prayer books are available through the Presidential Prayer Team website (PrayerTeam@Presidential-Prayer-Team.org should you wish to purchase one for your acquaintance in the armed forces.

# "Arise and Shine in 2009"

For God said "Let There Be Light"

By Apostle Gale Sheehan

## Arise and Shine

The Lord has been speaking to me over the past few months about the times and seasons we are in. These upcoming days and seasons will be a time where there will be a great contrast of "Light and Darkness" in the earth. This will be a time where both influences will happen at the same time. 2009 will be the beginning of a season where in every realm we must speak as God spoke "Let there be light." We are not, in the natural, accustomed to experiencing both Light and Darkness at the same time. Usually, one clearly prevails and takes dominion over the other. However, there is a scripture from Isaiah 60 that speaks of a time when both will happen at the same time in both the spiritual and natural realm.

Isaiah 60: 1-5

*"Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*

*For behold, darkness will cover the earth,*

*And deep darkness the peoples:  
But the Lord will rise upon you,  
And His glory will appear upon you,  
"And nations will come to Your light,  
And kings to the brightness of your rising.*

*"Lift up your eyes round about, and see;*

*They all gather together, they come to you,*

*Your sons will come from afar,  
And your daughters will be carried in the arms.*

*Then you will see and be radiant;  
And your heart will thrill and rejoice,  
Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you,*

*The wealth of the nations will come to you.*

In the beginning, God said "Let there be light." This was on day one of creation several days before God created the sun, moon and stars on day four of creation. On day one, the Lord was speaking into the earth realm His

purpose and plan that we are still walking out today. He was speaking of a future time when He would send Jesus as the answer for fallen man. In the book of John we are told that Jesus is the true light and His light shines into darkness. It also states in the book of John that when the light of Jesus shines into darkness; the darkness will not overpower it. John 1:4-5 *In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overpower it.*

We are approaching a time where there will be a confrontation of "Light and Darkness" in the earth. We, as God's people appointed for this time, must understand the times in which we are living in order to have a Godly perspective of the events unfolding in the earth. As darkness increases in the world in many ways; the glory of the Lord will arise upon His people. In fact, as deep darkness covers the people of the earth, there will be an army of the Lord that will arise declaring the purpose of the Lord. It is interesting that the word for the darkness that will cover the earth is a Hebrew word that means death and destruction. The word for the darkness that covers the people is gross thick gloom. In the midst of this great darkness, the church will arise and shine with the glory of the Lord that will draw unbelievers to Christ. This will be a great season for the end time church to fulfill destiny. This destiny was in the heart of God when he said "Let there be Light."

## Sound releases Light

One of the principles of God's kingdom is that sound releases light. You will find that with most of the miraculous occurrences in the Bible there was some kind of sound that preceded the miracles. This will be a very important revelation for the end time church. As it would appear in the natural that things would be getting darker and darker, there will be a true revelation in the hearts of God's people and in the supernatural realm that God wants to release greater dimensions of His light. God's

light brings forth His purposes, plans and victories for His people. His true light will also release true signs, wonders and miracles during these last days; even as counterfeit ones will be evident as well. Jesus will be the source of His true light that will be evident during these times. This principle of sound releasing light is not a new revelation or just for this day and hour, but it has been true since the beginning of creation. As God moved on His people to shout, praise, pray, sing and decree, in faith, His light would be released to bring great victories. Here are a few examples from both the Old and New testaments that reveal this truth.

**Joshua 6:1** - Walls of Jericho coming down with a shout!

**2 Chronicles 20:14** - Jehoshaphat winning battle by praising.

**Daniel 6:10** - Daniel prays in victory

**Ezra 6:8** - Darius's decree to finish the work of the Lord

**1 Kings 18: 41-45** - Elijah prays for rain.

**Luke 1:38** - The word of the Lord was decreed to Mary.

**Matthew 4:4** - Jesus resists Satan's temptations by speaking "It is written."

**Matthew 8:28** - Jesus casts out demons by His spoken word.

**Acts 2:1** - Tongues released to believers.

**Matthew 14:22** - Peter walks on water by the spoken word "come."

**John 11:43** - Lazarus raised from dead by "come forth."

**John 5:8** - Lame man walks by "Arise."

**Acts 16:25** - Paul and Silas released from prison by praising.

**Acts 3:6** - Lame man walks by Peter saying "in the name of Jesus."

**1 Thessalonians 4:13** - Jesus returning with a shout!

These are a few examples where we see some type of sound released in faith brought God's light and miracles into a situation. 2009 will be a key time where the *(continued on page 3)*

## THE BIBLE IN A NUTSHELL

people of the Lord must be vocal in speaking the word of the Lord in order to arise and shine and implement God's purposes.

### Light destroys Darkness

We are called to be a people of light in this season. God desires for His light to shine upon us and through us in new ways. The enemy desires to keep us in darkness and have his darkness bring despair upon all peoples of the earth. We must be those that are not silent in this season or God will not have His light go forth as he desires. We demonstrate the "Kingdom of God" by who we are, what we do and by what sound we make. As we make the "Sound of the Lord" in this season, nations will come to the light of the Lord. Let us be those in 2009 that demonstrate the glory of the Lord and reflect the cry of our hearts to hasten the coming of the Lord. "Come, Lord Jesus."

**Apostles Gale and Shelly Sheehan** serve as the Directors of Christian International Apostolic Network. Gale is the author of *Miracles Now!!!* and *Financial Miracles Now!!!*, equipping and activating saints to move in healing and financial miracles. Gale and Shelly also serve as the founders of Destiny Now Ministries. They travel nationally and internationally as conference speakers and have appeared on TBN and CBN broadcasts. They believe that the simplicity of "Jesus" and the gospel of the "Kingdom" of Christ within you will cause great transformation in the earth today. Gale & Shelly and their family reside in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida.

## FASTFriday

Fast and pray on the first Friday

FastFriday is the first Friday of every month led by Pastors Matt and Belinda Bowers. In June, it will be at 7:30 pm on Friday, June 5th. You may begin fasting with lunch that Friday and then meet in GFIC's fellowship hall where first we learn from David Barton's "Heritage Series". Then we join together for corporate prayer and/or prayer at specific prayer stations. The stations are for government, abortion issues, etc. Our country needs your prayers desperately. Join us!

*(compiled from some junior church students' essays (not ours!) Enjoy!)*

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord thy God is one", but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said, "Give me a light!" and someone did. Then God made the world.

He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in, though, because they didn't have cars.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel. Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels and no cable. God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then He gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include, don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua, who was the first Bible guy to use spies.

Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town. After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher said he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me. After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets.

One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then was barfed up on the shore. There were also some minor league prophets; but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of the New Testament. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born in a barn, too because my mom is always saying to me, "Close the door! Were you born in a barn?") It would be nice to say, As a matter of fact, I was."

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Republicans. Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him.

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Republicans and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands, instead.

Anyways, Jesus died for our sins; then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven; but, will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

**"May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you."**

~ Psalm 33:22  
(National Day of Prayer theme verse)

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## The Teacher Is Coming!

**Rev. Jim Montgomery**, of Montgomery Ministries, Inc. of Broken Arrow, OK, a graduate of Kent State University and Rhema Bible Training Center, has served the Body of Christ in a teaching and preaching capacity for over 25 years. He will minister at Grace on July 12 through 14.

Jim's ministry impacts people with the truth of God's Word, imparts the life and power of God, and empowers people with the presence of God. The result is a ministry experience that is encouraging and enlightening. His preaching and teaching help believers discover and experience abundant life - the life you were born to live!

In addition to ministry throughout the USA, Jim has ministered extensively in India, Egypt, Turkey, Kenya, Canada, Mexico, and Israel.

The purpose of Montgomery Ministries is to make the goodness of God known to as many people as possible. Their heart is to see people set free by the power of God and brought into the liberty that God's Word promises them. The foundational structure for Montgomery Ministries is found in Acts 14:22, "Strengthening the hearts of the disciples and encouraging them to continue in the faith." Jim and his wife Stephanie, are fully committed to carrying out Jesus' mandate to "make disciples of all nations."

## The Prophet Is Coming!

*(continued from page 1)*

leadership. Also available are specialized seminars and conferences to train, equip and activate ministers, youth and saints alike in their gifts, callings, and membership ministry in the Body of Christ.

The CI Central Headquarters is projected to fulfill all the ministries of Christian International to the Midwest and Eastern seaboard. Leon and his wife, Donna, serve on the CI Board of Governors; they are also on the Board of Directors for CIMN, CIST, CIBN and CIAN. As an apostolic/prophet of God, Dr. Leon is called to the Body of Christ to hear the voice of God speaking to His Church in this hour and to demonstrate the foundational ministry of the Apostolic/Prophet.

Leon and Donna have three daughters and sons-in-law, one son, and nine grandchildren. All of the family are very active in their service to the Lord.

**“This is a time when  
God asks ordinary  
men to do  
extraordinary things.”**

*(taken from the movie “Band of Brothers”)*

## SPECIAL EVENTS INVOLVING GFC

**May 7 National Day of Prayer prayer breakfast** at First Alliance 8-9:15 am \$3 at the door

**May 7 National Day of Prayer** at City Hall at noon

**May 17 ONLY Sunday at 10 AM and 7 PM Apostle/Prophet Leon Walters** from CI Central in Versailles, Indiana. ministering.

**May 24 Pot Blessing Dinner** in the church fellowship hall after our 10 am celebration Bring food to share

**May 19 - 27 Pastor John** ministering in the **Dominican Republic**

**June 5 FastFriday** Meet us for worship and prayer in the GFIC fellowship hall. **7:30 pm**

**June 7 GFIC picnic at the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle** Bring a covered dish of food to share after our 10 am celebration of Jesus there.

**July 3 FastFriday** Meet us for worship and prayer in the GFIC fellowship hall. **7:30 pm**

**July 12, 13, & 14 Teacher James Montgomery** from Tulsa, Ok ministering **10 AM & 7 PM** on Sunday **7 PM** on Monday & Tuesday