

HEALING ANGEL

Teaching

Preach the word of God. Be prepared whether the time is favorable or not.

CHAPTER 2

“Because if our generation is to get a glimpse of God in this present era, they must first detect something of His character in me...in you! W. Phillip Keller

JESUS CHRIST--OUR LORD AND SAVIOR!

Because Jesus Christ is everything we need for living a holy life, there are many sides to his character. We love the pictures of him as the good shepherd carrying the lamb across his shoulders, or the picture of Jesus playing with the little children. We see pictures of him teaching the multitudes as they sit on a mountainside. In Revelation, we see another side of Jesus. We see his power, intensity, anger, steadfastness, and eternal nature. John fell at his feet as though dead, when he saw him. If you ever had the notion to not take Jesus seriously because you thought he was weak or just a happy go lucky savior, please realize that Jesus means what he says and if we know what is good for us--we will fear Him. He is the one and only All mighty, All powerful God, The Lord of Heaven's Armies.

Revelation 1:7-8; 12-18

All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us.

He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father.

All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen

Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. And everyone will see him--even those who pierced him.

And all the nations of the world will mourn for him. Yes! Amen!

“I am the Alpha and the Omega--the beginning and the end;” says the Lord God.

“I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come--the Almighty One.”

***When I turned to see who was speaking to me I saw seven gold lampstands.
And standing in the middle of the lampstands was someone like the Son of Man.***

He was wearing a long robe with a gold sash across his chest.

His head and his hair were white like wool, as white as snow.

And his eyes were like flames of fire.

His feet were like polished bronze refined in a furnace, and his voice thundered like mighty ocean waves.

He held seven stars in his right hand, and a sharp two-edged sword came from his mouth.

And his face was like the sun in all its brilliance. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as if I were dead.

THE CHURCH OF THYATIRA LOOKED REALLY GOOD!

Revelation is the last book of the Bible; and God's last words and warnings to us. These seven churches were undergoing persecution from the Roman government. In spite of the hard times they were enduring, Christ came to say, "No excuses, no explanations, do and live as I have commanded you". This is the complaint God gave the angel to the church of Thyatira.

Revelation 2:19-20

I know all the things you do. I have seen your love, your faith, your service, and your patient endurance. And I can see your constant improvement in all these things.

But I have this complaint against you. You are permitting that woman-- that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet--to lead my servants astray. She teaches them to commit sexual sin and to eat food offered to idols.

Read closely the words of encouragement to the church. They were doing a lot of things right. They were a loving, faithful church. That is huge. They were a patient, enduring church that was serving others. This would be a church many would want to be a part of. It would give the appearance of a great church.

However, for a church to have love, faith, service, and endurance wasn't enough. You see they forgot the main thing. The main thing is loving God through obedience. The main thing is loving by obeying the Bible. Yes Jesus tells us that the most important commandment is to love God and to love others. He also says if we love Him we will obey Him. Love and obedience must walk hand in hand.

It is clear throughout the Bible, that each person is commanded to know and obey God. We are to believe in, trust in, rely on, and cling to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Each believer must seriously consider the time they spend developing their love relationship with Jesus. Jesus is much more concerned about who we are becoming than he is in what we are doing. This church was all about doing right, and ignored BEing in right relationship with God.

There are millions of 'good people' who go to church every week, work hard, love their spouses and children; but their Bibles stay closed. We are to busy living life to study and learn the Bible. We may think that God is number one in our lives. If He is the one that takes last place in our day, the one that is always pushed aside in light of doing other things, then we must not kid ourselves. Our things, our stuff, our busyness is on the throne. And perhaps our idol becomes our job, recreation, or big boy toys. Greed is described as an idol. Idol worship is also described as worshipping what our hands have made. As people, we were created to worship something. If anything but Jesus Christ is our #1 priority, the Bible calls it sin.

Counterfeiting money has been a problem, probably as long as money has been made. In the past men would study, analyze, and examine real dollar bills. They realized that there are many ways to counterfeit and it was of little use to study the false. Detecting the counterfeit was the easiest for those that knew, studied, and analyzed the real dollar bill. And so it seems logical that any Christian can fall into false teaching because they don't know the Bible. In the New Testament Paul commended the Bereans for not taking his word as truth, but compared his words with what the Bible said. They then determined if Paul was telling the truth.

When we listen to false teachings, teachings inspired by Jezebel, the queen of Israel, we will be led away from Jesus

Christ. For you see, Jezebel hated God's prophets and refused to listen to them. She turned her back on God, abandoning him. Jezebel supported and surrounded herself with false prophets, those who worshiped Baal and Asherah.

Baal and Asherah worship involved much prostitution and encouraged child sacrifices. Now sexual immorality, pornography, and lustful movies are past times of America. The placing of our children on the altar of selfishness as sacrifices for our comfort and success, which is called pro-choice; is that nothing but a change of name from the practices of Asherah and Baal worship? Some intellectuals would like us to believe that the human being has evolved. Wow, what happened to the evolution of the mind of man? Looks to me like same sins as was practiced nearly 3000 years ago In Israel. Same old sins. Nothing new under the sun wouldn't you say?

WHY READ THE OLD TESTAMENT?

In the New Testament the Bible tells us that we have been given the Old Testament as an example, to warn us who are alive now. The Bible tells us to be careful, because we can fall under the same temptations as others.

1 Corinthians 1:11-13

These things happened to them as examples for us.

They were written down to WARN us who live at the end of the age.

If you think your are standing strong, be careful not to fall.

The temptations in your life, are not different from what others experience.

Jesus specifically used the name Jezebel to the church of Thyatira, but wasn't specific about what she was teaching. We don't know if Jezebel was the name of the woman in the church or if John was referring to Jezebel, the wife of King Ahab. Because of her sinfulness, Queen Jezebel's entire family was killed; those in the Thyatira church that tolerated Jezebel teachings faced the same consequence. We will study the Old Testament example of Jezebel, that was written to warn us today. Let's learn from the mistakes of Jezebel and Ahab so that we might stand strong in our faith in Jesus Christ.

Many commentaries say that Jezebel in the church of Thyatira was teaching that sexual immorality was not a sin. However, the Old Testament never says that Jezebel practiced sexual immorality, but did practice spiritual adultery. She opposed Biblical prophets with a vengeance. She used the prophets of God to her advantage or killed them. The Bible tells us that Jezebel encouraged her husband to sin. By building a temple to Jezebel's idols, Ahab indulged his wife's sins. He too worshiped these Idols. Ahab was tremendously influenced by his evil wife. By his actions and influence he encouraged his people to worship idols and turn their backs on God. ***(1 Kings 16:29-1 Kings 22:40)***

In the Old Testament the prophet Jeremiah warns about back-sliding. We are suppose to grow in our faith, go forward. Back-sliding is going backward, disloyal, faithless.

Jeremiah 3:12

Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you...

Jeremiah 3:22

Return ye, backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings.

Why then is this people of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual backsliding?

We also compromise. Our compromises of God's Word and rationalization of our sins starts small, almost unnoticeable. Something like throwing the frog in the frying pan and slowly, ever so slowly, turning up the heat. The frog is cooked before he realizes what happened to him. This same approach works well on people and their faith--just a little compromise at a time and slowly but surely we will find ourselves in a boiling cauldron of sin.

Because the prophets talk much about backsliding, compromising, and being careful not to sin, this author is more inclined to think that Jezebel's false teachings to the church slowly turned her students away from God. She would probably encourage strength of the flesh rather than crucifying our flesh; pride rather than humility. Disregarding God's will and pursuing with a vengeance our fleshly desires is her lesson. Her false teachings would hint at back-sliding, disloyalty to God, and faithlessness. Ahab considered it trivial to commit the same sins as King Jeroboam; Jezebel probably trivialized the consequences of sin to her followers.

Jezebel got what she wanted and did evil to achieve her goals. In the story of Naboth, Jezebel used the church to fulfill her evil plan. Jezebel did whatever it took to get what she wanted. It is interesting that the Thyatira church was filled with love, faith, and service but was tolerating her falseness. So to have self-fulfilling rather than God honoring motives in the church to get what you wanted, be successful, or rich would be on her lesson plans.

Jezebel surround herself with false prophets. Because she financially supported these false prophets. They told her what she wanted to hear, not what she needed to hear. They did not speak God's truth, they spoke what would keep their job. Keeping their job meant keeping Jezebel happy. Jezebel teachings will encourage her followers to surround themselves with those who sugar coat God's word and in today's culture to tolerate political correctness.

Jezebel's Dad was a Sidonian King. She had it all. She was her Daddy's princess. She was on the throne of her life. It was all about Jezebel. From childhood, Jezebel was probably raised thinking she was the center of the universe and in control.

Jezebel and Ahab were angered by Biblical correction. They lashed back at the prophets. Filled with pride, they never admitted they were wrong. Jezebel and Ahab mocked, intimidated, looked down upon, rejected, accused, and killed God's prophets. Today, solid Biblical teaching is often angrily and defensively rejected, in the church and out of the church. Another subtle, but deadly lesson of Jezebel teaching!

Jezebel was an evil influence. Jezebel's self righteous pride, power, love of sin, and hardened heart kept her from repentance. Her followers were devoted to her. Even today, 3000 years later, many are drawn by this evil influence. The power of her seduction and ability to bring loyalty and submission to her teachings should not be overlooked.

Queen Jezebel despised holiness. She refused to humble herself before God or to reverence the Holy One. Jezebel was queen, on the throne, and in control. Her hatred of God, prophets, and anything holy would be the dark, evil in her heart. However, she would mask and try to keep hidden this deep hatred, for it would not be to her advantage in keeping her loyal followers.

The old Disney movies did a great job of using the character of Queen Jezebel in their animated movies. The wicked queen in Snow White and her hatred of Snow clones Jezebel in control and plotting destruction of others. Snow White's name could symbolize the Scripture in Isaiah where we are told that God will wash away our sins and make us white as snow. Snow White was gullible to the enticement of the wicked witch. The Queen's hatred of this holiness increased daily, until the wickedness destroyed her as she tried to destroy Snow White.

Or take Little Mermaid and Ursula the queen of the sea. Watch closely how she seductively manipulates Ariel into her plan of destruction. Masking her hatred of her and the King, Ursula used Ariel for her own gain. Her hatred toward Ariel's father motivated her to manipulate Ariel. She wanted the good King's throne and power. Also, notice how Ursula stripped her captives and kept them in bondage. Jezebel teachings will steal the plan God has for someone from their heart and replace it with a plan that will ultimately destroy them.

All of these and more false teachings will influence the church to turn their back on God. Remember, there are so many counterfeits; we are best equipped to reject them by studying the truth.

HOW GOD DEALT WITH JEZEBEL AND AHAB IN 850 B.C.

1 Kings 16:29-33

Ahab son of Omri began to rule over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of King Asa's reign in Judah.

He reigned in Samaria twenty-two years.

But Ahab son of Omri did what was evil in the Lord's sight, even more than any of the kings before him.

And as though it were not enough to follow the example of Jeroboam, he married Jezebel, the daughter of King Ethbaal of the Sidonians, and he began to bow down in worship of Baal.

First Ahab built a temple and an altar for Baal in Samaria. Then he set up an Asherah pole.

He did more to provoke the anger of the Lord, the God of Israel, than any of the other kings of Israel before him.

Jeroboam was the first evil king of Israel. He built golden calves for the people to worship, because he thought that was best for him to keep his power. He turned his back on God, worshiped idols, and influenced others to worship idols. Jeroboam sent his wife to visit a prophet. The prophet said that all of their family would be destroyed because of their sins and refusal to repent. The Bible records their destruction. ***(1 Kings 11-14)***

Elijah was the bold prophet sent to confront Jezebel and Ahab. Jezebel killed many of God's prophets. Even though she swore she would kill Elijah, God protected his life. God said that there was nothing good in Jezebel. Jehu, was the warrior king picked by God to destroy her and her family. You can read of the bloody horrible end this family faced. ***(2 Kings 9:1-10)***

GOD ALMIGHTY IS KING AND HE IS TO BE ON THE THRONE IN A CHRISTIAN'S HEART.

Some of the false teachings in America's Christian churches put the person on the throne of their life. They subtly make God the great sugar daddy in the sky, eager to grant each positive request. And he, being the God of love will make their days sunny and bright because they have asked. Believing in yourself rather than God is preached; focus on yourself and fulfilling your dream. God is reduced to being a servant. This is NOT Biblical Christianity!

We are to Believe GOD; trusting in, relying on, and clinging to Jesus Christ. God is love. God is the boss. Man was

created to glorify God! We worship God and God alone! God loves to bless his obedient, humble, love filled kids. We are commanded to think like God, and to do his will. We are commanded to consider others more important than ourselves. We are to crucify our flesh and live by the power of the Holy Spirit! God desires us to change and grow up to be like Jesus. We are to be teachable. We are to study and know the Bible. Our lives are to be filled enjoying God; knowing that no matter what He is with us, loving us. We are commanded to humble ourselves before God and let him examine our heart. We are to acknowledge when we sin and repent. That is living Biblical Christianity.

AMERICA ENCOURAGES TOLERANCE!

The American culture is one of toleration. Almost anything goes, everything is accepted today in America. Much of the culture does what they think is right in their own eyes. The media convinces us that toleration is normal, good, enlightened, and evolved. Those that don't tolerate the ideals of the godless are mocked, intimidated, looked down upon, and rejected.

Jezebel's sins provoked God to anger, and yes the Bible says that God is slow to anger, but she pushed his button. God's anger was provoked because this godless couple completely abandoned Him. In Thyatira, 900 years later we are told the same consequences will come on the church for tolerating those false teachings. Hear this clearly! The church tolerating, not even doing what Jezebel did, not even believing what she believed, will be held to the same consequences as the most evil woman recorded in the Bible.

Do you see the responsibility we have today? We have Jesus, the Bible and thousands of years of faithful saints that have gone before us to learn from. The Bible tells us to whom much is given, much is expected. Yes we live under the grace of Jesus Christ, but he stands with flames in his eyes and feet of bronze warning us not to tolerate false teachings.

We must build the foundation of our family and our church on the rock of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 7:24-27

***Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise,
like a person who builds a house on solid rock.***

***Though the rain comes in torrents and the flood waters rise and the wind beats against that house,
it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock.***

***But anyone who hears my teaching and does not obey it is foolish,
like a person who builds a house on sand.***

***When the rains and floods come and the wind beats against that house,
it will collapse with a mighty crash.***

Are we as parents and the church building the lives of our children on the rock of Jesus Christ? If not, then what do they have to hold onto when the storms of life come thundering down on them? How will they stand against the storms of false teachings and the influence of the godless affluent? Matthew 5 says they won't, they will collapse with a mighty crash.

AMERICA IS SEDUCED BY THE TEACHINGS OF JEZEBEL; OUR CHILDREN ARE IN DANGER!

Reading the consequences to those who refuse to repent of tolerating the false teachings of Jezebel is sickening. Not a little sickening, but throw up, lay down and agonize in convulsions. In the New Living Translation it says:

Revelation 2:23
I will strike her children dead.

Watch the news and see how many young people are running off into the most vile, corrupt, wicked, vicious lifestyles they can find. How my heart grieves for the parents of these church raised kids running from God and into the gates of hell. Even this morning as we face the first beheading in America, a simple church black woman agonizes over the choices her son made. Guaranteed that was not her plan when she held this murderer as her precious baby. That was not her plan when she dressed him up and went to church on Sunday mornings.

Look at how many people in the entertainment business, or professional sports that were raised in the church and have been influenced and have chosen to live the life of the 'godless affluent'?

Statistics say about 75% of church children, when they reach 18, leave the church and don't return. Our church youth are turning their backs on God, turning to the idols of the world. **The church is doing something terribly wrong!** In God's warning in Revelation he tells us it is the sins of the church and the people who tolerate false teaching and refuse to repent that are to blame!

It is not God's will to destroy children. He wants to give them life. Jesus Christ came to give us abundant life. The author of Healing Angel allowed God to examine her heart and expose her unknown sins. God convicted her of tolerating Jezebel's false teachings. The author has prayed, fasted, and studied for eighteen months to know the extent of her sin. She repented with all of her heart. Now she can receive God's blessing of life and health to her children and grandchildren. Because of God's grace, we will be healed because we heeded God's warning and repented!

Western Meadows wants all children to receive God's abundant life. We share what we have learned with total sincerity after intense searching of the Bible for answers. God loves us, oh how he loves us. He wants to bless us and He wants the best for us.

We must know that these false teachings want to strip our children of God's plan for their lives and replace it with a plan that will bring them sorrow, heartache and spiritual death. We must equip our children to not be gullible and fall for the manipulations of the false teachings of Jezebel. We must teach them to be as wise as a serpent, but gentle as a dove. We must help our children to put on the whole armor of God so that they will be protected from the flaming darts of hatred, accusations, and manipulation. We must equip them with the helmet of salvation, the breast plate of righteousness, the belt of truth, and a strong, impenetrable shield of faith. We must teach them to pray about everything. We must teach them to be careful--full of care; for the the world is evil. (***Ephesians 6:10-18***)

AS CHRISTIANS WE ARE TO INFLUENCE THE WORLD, AND NOT LET THE WORLD INFLUENCE US!

Jeremiah was a faithful, bold, and persevering prophet of God. He was met with incredible opposition, persecution, and suffering for proclaiming God's word and warnings to Judah. In Jeremiah 15 he is pouring his heart out to God. He is sick and tired of all of his trials and tribulations, and who could blame him. But here is what the God of Heaven's Armies tells him about his situation.

Jeremiah 15:15-21 (NLT)

Then I said, "Lord, you know what's happening to me. Please step in and help me.

Punish my persecutors! Please give me time; don't let me die young.

It's for your sake I am suffering.

When I discovered your words, I devoured them.

They are my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name.

O Lord God of Heaven's Armies, I never joined the people in their merry feasts,

I sat alone because your hand was on me.

I was filled with indignation at their sins. Why then does my suffering continue?

Why is my wound so incurable?

Your help seems as uncertain as a seasonal brook, like a spring that has gone dry."

This is how the Lord responds:

"If you return to me, I will restore you so you can continue to serve me.

If you speak good words rather than worthless ones, you will be my spokesman.

YOU MUST INFLUENCE THEM; DO NOT LET THEM INFLUENCE YOU!

They will fight against you like an attacking army, but I will make you as secure as a fortified wall of bronze.

They will not conquer you, for I am with you to protect and rescue you.

I, the Lord, have spoken!

Yes, I will certainly keep you safe from these wicked men. I will rescue you from their cruel hands."

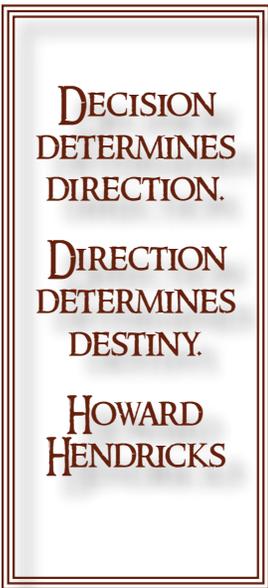
God wants his people strong, courageous, and persevering. No excuses, no explanations just obey God. God tells Jeremiah to get back in the game, quit whining. If we love him we will obey Him. The church has to rise up with strength, and be like Jeremiah. Yes, the world is going to fight us and we are going to have some rough days. But God promises protection and life to those who obey. We must be done with tolerating false teachings in our church. We are commanded to be a light bringing the hope of abundant life to the world.

The world is running away. They are accusing us, rejecting us, trying to quiet us, intimidating us, hating us. Church we are failing! We have not lifted up our precious, all mighty, all gracious Jesus in a right way. Jesus Christ tells us that ***"if I be lifted up I will draw all men to me!"*** Jesus keeps his promises, always.

In the New Testament we see Jesus Christ seeking and saving the lost. He came to give us life, life abundantly! Jesus Christ came to be an example of how to live. Jesus Christ washed the feet of his disciples, on his knees with his bare hands. And then he arose and said "I have set you an example, now go and do the same."

Jesus Christ, who washed the feet of his disciples, is the Lord of Heaven's Armies, giving Jeremiah his marching orders. Jesus told him to repent of his whining and return to God so he could be his spokesman. We have to resolve

to quit throwing our suckers in the dirt and walking away and whining when the world scorns us. God calls us as he called Jeremiah to be his spokesman. We are to stop speaking worthless words and use God's Word. The word that is living and active and sharper than a two edged sword. The word that is able to pierce. The Word that when spoken will achieve God's purpose and not come back null and void.



Oh parents, hear what God has to say to us.

God has a good plan for our children. We have the responsibility to be sure that we are building their lives on the Rock of Jesus Christ. We must give them a solid foundation with which to face the storms of life. We must consider God's command to Jeremiah as our marching orders. We must influence people, not let them influence us. We must show them how to live as Jesus lived. We must be God's spokesman to a spiritually dying and morally decaying world--let's hand them life, abundant and eternal.

The verses in **Joshua 1:7-9** were marching orders for Joshua to take the land and conquer the Lord's enemies. Joshua influenced many and was successful. We must follow the example of Joshua and Jeremiah. We must fight for our children and for our families.

Joshua 1:7-9

Be strong and very courageous.

Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you.

Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left.

Then you will be successful in everything you do.

Study this Book of Instruction continually.

Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it.

Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

This is my command--be strong and courageous!

For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Making the decision to be a spokesman for Christ is huge. So what does it look like? Please read Phillip Keller's quote on the next page. This man's man was a rugged outdoorsman and shepherd. His take on what it looks like to live as an example of Jesus Christ is awesome and so right one. Be blessed and encouraged by this man's incredible witness of the faith.

WHAT MAKES LIFE WORTH LIVING

OTHERS--CARING, GIVING, ENCOURAGING

W. PHILLIP KELLER

As we well know; our lives as God's people are under the most intense scrutiny from a watching world. Astonishing as it may sound, they not only observe what we do, but they scrutinize what kind of people we are. They may scoff at our devotion to Christ, yet they expect us to be distinct and different in our deportment toward them.

Perhaps the single most important criteria that they use to measure us by is the simple, burning question: Does this person really care about me for my own sake? Are they honestly interested?

Human beings have an incredible capacity deep within their souls to detect pretense or empty playacting. They can sense the phony show! Yet they respond to genuine concern and honest goodwill in the same way flowers open to the sun.

Therefore I have come to realize how very important it is to treat others with respect, dignity, good cheer, and gratitude. A warm smile, a firm handshake, a caring touch on the shoulder, a sincere compliment, a lighthearted bit of humor, a genuine expression of encouragement--each can ignite a sense of worth and hope in a day for another pilgrim on the path of life.

I, for one, have grown weary of the intense hype and Hollywood glitz that attends so many Christian endeavors to reach perishing people. It is as if high-powered preaching, glamorous musicians screaming into their microphones, and gigantic conventions with highly paid performers could somehow convince our generation to seek God.

Perhaps the path I prefer seems far too simple, too ordinary, too slow to attract and astonish our crude, crass culture. But it is the path of humility, compassion, and profound love that Christ Himself trod during His short sojourn among us in human guise two thousand years ago. ***"As the Father has sent Me (to serve) so send I you!"*** Those stabbing, imperative words need to be taken very seriously today.

All quotes by W. Phillip Keller are taken from his book, What Makes Life Worth Living, (Grand Rapids, Mi., Kregel Publication)