

Gems

Knoxville, TN Convention, 2008

September 25-28, 2008

- The more we put into convention, the more we will get out of it. We're not here just to listen, but to let God work on things in our heart.
- God desires to bless us with Spiritual Gifts, not natural gifts.
- In Jesus day there were no fences to keep the sheep. It was the Shepherd who tended the flock and kept them. Even today fences are not needed for God's people. The Shepherd is far more restrictive and helpful than any fence could be.
- Stand fast in the liberty... Don't come again into bondage. In Jesus we have freedom from woe and strife.
- Psalms 23:2 "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters." Sometimes God has to force us to lie down to think and meditate on Him.
- It's a good thing when God singles us out to talk to us directly and helps us.
- Good when we hear the voice beyond the voice... the silent message to our hearts.
- Danger! We could be honest with men, but not with God.
- For something to happen that we pray for, God has to be "in it". It has to be in God's will. Pure human effort will not bring success.
- God has given us the time to prepare, but not the time to waste.
- We need to pray not just for the needs of the harvest field, but also for workers' to be preserved in their place in the ministry, and to make them strong to labor.
- All things cannot be measured with human understanding, but by the Word of God.
- We cannot make ourselves Holy; but God can. Remember the woman that touched the hem of His garment. Virtue came from Jesus into her life!
- Nothing else matters but doing what God asks. This brings peace.
- Who are the feeders? Those that feed on the word of the living God. Anyone can be a feeder.
- Obey from the heart. There is no love in being forced to obey. Could we say: "God spoke to me and I want to do what he wants."
- God's spirit produces the same result everywhere in the world.
- A message spoken by the true messenger is a message from God.
- Read about Naaman the leper. Naaman said "I thought". Our own thinking is dangerous. God's message is humbling as a little child. God asks us to do simple things. Naaman got more than he asked for, he got the flesh of a little child.
- Human reasoning brings treasure in this life, but Heavenly reasoning brings treasure in heaven.
- If we give the Lord access He can work in our hearts and lives. We have to remove obstacles that block the way.
- Abraham had a wonderful spirit toward Lot. He wasn't critical of Lot's decisions. He went to the rescue of Lot.

- Jesus was so settled to do God's will on/in earth; we too need to be settled to die to self and manifest Jesus' life in us.
- We need to stay out of the Lord's way and let Him do the work in our life, and we will not do any harm to others.
- We have a light affliction for a moment, and if we don't see it that way, something is wrong with our vision.
- Someone said, "I prayed but I did not listen". Prayer means giving God time to speak to us. (Communication is 2 ways.)
- Fire does not destroy the gold... it removes the dross and leaves pure gold. Our tests by fire does not destroy our faith, it just removes the doubt and makes our faith pure.
- We need to live to be a testimony of hope for others.
- If we were not trying to be Christ-like, we would not have any struggles or affliction.
- If we are inside the will of God, then God will be on our side.
- We need to fit into God's will. Think of David, Joseph and others who fit into God's will.
- God specializes in impossibilities.
- Caution: God is working.
- If we don't begin the day with God, it tells Him that we think we do not need His help the rest of the day.
- There's one spirit in God's people all over the world. "Apart, but yet united" Jesus is the bread that feeds the body. Bread naturally feeds the whole body. Jesus' blood cleanses the whole body and unifies God's people.
- TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves More. Need to keep the unity of the spirit.
- Three things for keeping the unity of the spirit. 1) Lowliness of mind, humility. 2) Meekness 3) Patience
- Do whatever it means to keep peace. Make a sacrifice for peace and you will not lose. If just one will "back down" that can solve the problem.
- To keep unity there's a time to speak and a time for silence. The tongue no man can tame, but God can.
- Meekness is the fruit of submission.
- We are patient with someone we love.
- Why do we practice baptism? 1) Example set by Jesus, 2) Jesus taught baptism, 3) A conviction in our heart
- Baptism speaks of burial and resurrection; that's sorrow followed by joy. Baptism into Christ signifies that Christ is over the body.
- Is it safe for others to look on our life? Only if we have a living relationship with God. Abraham was safe to be with.
- God expects to see a difference between those that served God and those that do not. Think about Daniel and his 3 friends. They were different. Remember the 5 wise and 5 foolish virgins, They were different. Remember the one without a wedding garment. Love God with our all because it will make a difference.
- Warning: The man without the wedding garment did not despise the invitation, but he did not like the wedding garment.
- What is the wedding garment? Clothed with mercy, humility, meekness, unselfishness, longsuffering, kindness, ...
- It would be good if our longings were the same as God's. God looks on things as they will be and we look on things as they are.
- The devil can imitate, but he cannot duplicate.

- Our secret for making it in this world is to have the spirit of a little child.
- When Jesus returns, angels will find us on that day, we will not need to look for Him.
- Temperance is more than self-control. It is God-control.
- John 14:1 “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.” That says we have a choice!
- This year give attention to one thing... and the other things will follow.
- Prayer? Is it something we love to do, or do we feel it is something we have to do.
- Prayer is work. We are not doing nothing when we pray.
- Our requests go to God through Jesus. Always pray in Jesus’ name and according to God’s will. We need to accept it when God says no.
- Go to God in prayer with a blank sheet of paper that we’ve already signed at the bottom that we are willing to do what is above. (His choice my choice will be.)
- God does the impossible part.
- The only thing that makes us a child of God, is having His spirit dwelling within us.
- We should not tremble before men and be casual before God.
- Life is a process of God working with us, purging us for Heaven.
- Is there a piece (peace) of you missing. 99% submission does not bring 100% peace.
- If people look up to you, let them see Jesus.
- It’s good to begin, better to continue, and best to continue to the end.
- We have two perfect intercessors: The Holy Spirit and Jesus.
- If we pray for what we think we need it would be insufficient. We need help from the intercessors.
- Our part is to come boldly to the throne of grace. Do not come in pride.
- The Holy Spirit helps us because we do not know what we should pray for.
- Praying is not how well we express our need; it is how well we feel our need.
- Our weaknesses need never hinder us in serving God. God’s grace can overcome our weaknesses.
- Every day we need mercy, even for things we are not aware of.
- Never fear or even think that God wears out of forgiving us if we come in the right spirit.
- When God forgives He is not pleased with what we have done, but he is pleased by our attitude.
- Intercession for others should be an important part of our prayer.
- Be ever thankful for any experience that brings you closer to God.
- God gives exceedingly abundant, far more than we think we have need of.
- The greatest way to show our love to God is to be obedient.
- Christ is the end of the law. Christ is the goal. He is our law.

~ October 4, 2008