

FIRE BY NIGHT

"Reflections Upon Reflections" [of The Father's Heart]

...."You, in Your great compassion, did not forsake them in the wilderness; The pillar of cloud did not leave them by day, to guide them on their way, or the pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way in which they were to go".... Nehemiah 9:19 NASB

January 8th

IF WE MAKE THE "QUALITY DECISION" TO LOVE/OBEY GOD FIRST AND FOREMOST THEN WE WILL ALWAYS BE FOUND WALKING IN LOVE TOWARDS ALL WHO CROSS OUR PATH

Words of Prophecy:

* *Living for oneself to ANY degree precludes loving, honouring and respecting those in their sphere of existence. For truly I say unto you, if one's heart is not wholly given to Me [and, therefore, they are found abiding in self-desire] then, because they have held part back they, first, have not loved, honoured or respected Me. One only loves, honours and respects those in their sphere of existence to the degree that they love, honour and respect Me first - through a perfect obedience [abiding faith and love].*

...."Then His [Jesus'] mother and His brothers arrived, and standing outside they sent word to Him and called Him. A crowd was sitting around Him, and they said to Him, 'Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are outside looking for You.' Answering them, He said, 'Who are My mother and My brothers?' Looking about at those who were sitting around Him, He said, 'Behold My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother'".... Mark 3:31-35 NASB

There is much in this entire passage of scripture [*even preceding vs. 31*] - and, as you continue to meditate on it, you will gain a deep revelation of the spiritual realities found therein. You can imagine the great and numerous

pressures that were on Mary and Jesus' half-brothers and sisters in those early days of Jesus' ministry. So much so, that it is written in the verses preceding verse 31 that they actually thought *[for a time]* that Jesus had lost His mind *[perhaps, they even had a FEAR for His well-being because of it]*. In reality, He was simply putting the Father's Will first - as we must in all things.

...."And He []came home, and the crowd [*]gathered again, to such an extent that they could not even eat a meal. When His own people heard [of] [this,] they went out to take custody of Him; for they were saying, "He has lost His senses".... Mark 3:20-21 NASB*

Also, in Mark 3 we see the religious leaders accuse Him of having an "unclean spirit" - so the Enemy was really working overtime attempting to influence the people *[including Jesus' family]* that He was off course. Had Mary and his brothers and sisters had the proper heart attitude at the time *[much like Mary sitting at the feet of Jesus in the story of Mary and Martha]* then they could have been in the "front row" of the meeting.

Jesus, in following the path that the Father set up for Him, produced a "continual confrontation" in the hearts of all those who crossed His path *[religious leaders, his family etc.]* - the same as we do when we step out in faith and obedience where the Father's Will for us is concerned. That is why it is extremely important for us to have our heart established in the "revealed" Word/Will of God because it is certain that, AS WE DO, we will not be moved off course by the fear of what others might think and say about us.

The bottom line, then, is that if we make the "quality decision" *[a decision of the heart from which there is no turning back]* to love/obey God first and foremost THEN we will always be found walking in love towards all who cross our path *[whether they like it or not!]*. However, if one remains self-focused to any degree then it is certain that they will "unconsciously" *[although they should be conscious of it]* set themselves *[by what they do and say]* as a hindrance to the Father's highest Will and purpose.

Prayer of Proclamation:

Father, we thank You and praise You that You empower us, by Your great Grace, to "abide" *[dwell]* in the place of a heart "wholly given" to your highest Will and purpose. We thank You that you have created in us a courageous heart -

one that continually seeks to love *[with Your Love]* at all cost to ourselves. Therefore, we set ourselves *[in our obedience]* to remain alert to the still, small voice of Your Spirit, that we might be used in whatever way You desire to use us, as You draw many to Yourself in this final hour - and we declare all of these things DONE, in Jesus Name. Amen.