

The God of the Impossible (continued from front page)

then replied to Jesus, asking "Who then can be saved?" Then, Jesus answered, "With man, it is impossible, but not with God, for with God all things are possible." LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION. Why did Peter ask Jesus "Who then can be saved?" since Jesus spoke only of rich people, and how hard it is for them to get saved? Did Peter think that everyone is rich?

LET ME SUGGEST SOMETHING. Whatever keeps a person from wholeheartedly coming to Christ in surrender and obedience, turning their back on their sins and following God in love and obedience...I say, whatever it is, that thing is their riches, and they decide they would rather go to Hell than give it up and get right with God. For some people, it may be an enormously high position of influence, prestige or power. For others it may be something they have obtained or are doing illegally. For others, it may be a terribly wrong relationship that they know very well is evil in God's sight, and destructive to others and themselves. To yet others, it may be cheap thrills of drugs, sex, alcohol, or many other really stupid things that damage life and help damn the soul by digging a deeper pit which is more difficult to escape.

A young Sicilian lady who had been greatly damaged by drugs was struggling to do a cleaning job I was helping her with. Repeatedly she would say with her Italian accent: **Impossible!** Gently calling her by name, I replied, "Difficult?—Yes! but not impossible." Once again, God is the God of the impossible! Whatever mountains or walls seem to stand in front of you, or whatever chains may be wrapped around your hands, heart or mind, God can perform the impossible which no scientist or other professional can perform. Though there may be difficulties, it is not "**Impossible!**" "for with God, ALL things are possible!"

God's "World Cup" Gabriel L. Mancino



The Bible says that there is a "cup" for all people; winners and losers. St. Paul referred to the Olympic games and the soon-to-wilt crown given to the winner, when he observed: "They do it for a temporary crown that fades, but we do it for an imperishable one!" (1 Cor. 9:25). The wreaths won and worn by worldly winners wilted. Friend, this is not the case with those crowned by God.

Looking at various Bible verses on this subject reveals the discipline required to win the crown, no less than the demands experienced by those who would win in any contest—mental, physical or otherwise. To pay the price to secure the prize of the eternal salvation of all who come to God, Jesus took an unbelievable "cup" and drank it to the bottom. That cup was the cup of identifying with and suffering for the sin of the world; including your sin and mine. It was a cup of pain, as we well know, but it was also a cup of unimaginable shame. No wonder Jesus asked, if it was possible, that this "cup" pass from Him, for He had never personally identified with sin as to take it upon Himself. St. Jude later tells us of Christian love that tries to save the sinner, while "hating the garment spotted by the flesh" (v.23).

I have read of people who, for one reason or another, rejected a bestowed honour or prize, and of prisoners who refused a pardon and their subsequent freedom. Spiritually speaking, the Bible states that there is a "cup" for such as these, as well, and that those who refuse to turn their lives over to God will drink that cup of God's wrath to its very bottom (see Ps.11:6; 75:8). The stunning fact is that either "cup"—God's wreath or God's wrath—is taken by each person by choice. Which "cup" have you taken and are now drinking from, and perhaps have been for years? The "cup" of Christ leads us to a unfading crown of glory for anyone in the world. **What a World Cup!**

How To Make It Impossible For God To Do The Impossible:
Jesus said "No man can serve two masters" (Matt.6:24) He says, and the rest of the Bible confirms, that we will serve ONE; like it or not. Hebrews 6:4-6 says (in MY translation!) "You can't turn to God when you're too busy eating your sins and loving it, or sneaking some on the sly...even if you try to look religious!" You cannot go north and south on the EM1 at the same time. Unless people turn from their sins with no corner-cutting compromises, they make it impossible for God to save them.

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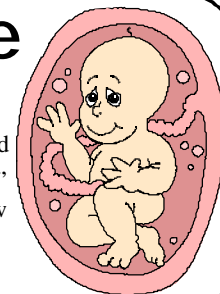
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The God of the Impossible!

"You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvellous are Your works...Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed."

Ps.139:13-16

Gabriel L. Mancino



God is NOT an impossibility, but God CAN accomplish the impossible! The Bible is full of examples of God bringing victory and deliverance to those who "trust and obey" Him. Those true historical records make exciting, encouraging and challenging reading.

Jesus' mother, Mary, was told of her upcoming virgin birth of Jesus and of the birth of John the Baptist to her very aged relative, Elizabeth. (Lukel:34-37). Both births were **humanly impossible**. Mary had no husband, and both Elisabeth and her husband were far too old to produce a baby. Mary is the ONLY example of God approving of a woman having a baby without male involvement. Scientists should take heed! Designer babies are God's business, not man's.

God brought creation out of chaos as seen in the opening part of Genesis in the Bible, and without use of "evolution."

Organic supposedly coming from inorganic?? God made all things and life itself from *nothing at all!* Scientists may pride themselves in their alleged creation of life, but *they start with nothing. Impossible...for them!*

God, however, did not stop with *creating* out of chaos. God also RE-creates out of chaos. This time, I speak of the deep and pervasive chaos

of human sin. Two thousand years before modern pollution or aids or bird flu, St. Paul wrote that the whole creation is groaning to be released from the immeasurable, world-wide pollution caused by human sin. Worldly Man may "create life" artificially, but to RE-create life is **impossible**. The fact is, they would have no such interest in either the blessing or the benefit.

A rich young man came to Jesus for the specific reason of finding out how he may obtain a new and re-created life. Though **Jesus lovingly answered this young man's very important question**, the man was unwilling to go to such length to receive what he knew he needed most, and ended up walking away "empty handed." What a tragic choice. As a result, Jesus emphasised to His disciples how hard it is for rich people to "enter the kingdom of God." **Now note two things:** First, Peter

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July 4th : USA Independence Day! Yet, so-called "American" organisations, like the ACLU, have worked to destroy every foundation upon which America was built. Recently, a top graduate, giving her Valedictory Speech - OK, she was "w arned"- had her microphone turned off just before she mentioned the name of Jesus (only once in her speech!) Freedom? This is just another example of the nations fighting against the Lord and His Messiah Christ (Psalm 2) The world's leaders want Independence ALL DAY FROM the true God and Christ.

"Deliver Us From Evil"

Jesus' words in *The Lord's Prayer*
(see Matt.6:13 with Gal.1:3,4; 2 Tim.4:18)

by Gabriel L. Mancino



My wife and I attend church at our local Salvation Army on Sunday mornings. Their motto almost since it's beginning in the 1860's has been "**Blood and Fire,**" referring to the Blood of Jesus which saves a person from their sins, and the Fire of the Holy Ghost which cleanses a person from their inward sinfulness and then fills that person with God's Spirit. This sums up the spiritual work of God in any person who comes to Him on *HIS* terms. What deliverance this brings! Yet this teaching didn't start with the Salvation Army. It was the "**grand depositum**" of Methodism in the 18th century during the Evangelical Revival in which God used John and Charles Wesley to "spread Scriptural holiness across these lands." However, the teaching of full deliverance from sin was already in the Bible—Old Testament and New!

If I may try to sum it up, **The Law Speaks Deliverance!** Moses saw **The Burning Bush** and said "*I must turn aside and see!*" (Exo.3:3). God called Moses' name and sent him on a mission of unbelievable deliverance. Friend, God will do the same with you if you will just "*turn aside and see.*" **Moses Saw the Fire!**

Going centuries ahead from Moses to the times of the kings, we learn that **The Prophets Speak Deliverance!** A great example is found in Isaiah 6 which records the incident of Isaiah's vision of God. Isaiah saw the Lord, was touched by fire and then heard God's call to spread the message of deliverance to a back-slidden and increasingly idolatrous nation...like Britain. In his vision, a heavenly messenger took a live, hot coal from the altar and placed it on his tongue as an indication that his sins were cleansed. Here we see **The Burning Tongue, for Isaiah Felt the Fire!** The first deliverance was for the prophet himself, *and then* for the people to whom he was sent.

There is likewise an experience to receive from God, and a subsequent work to do for each of us.

Speeding to the start of the New Testament, John the Baptist provides an illustration of how **The Gospel Speaks Deliverance!** God's angel had "visited" John's father prior to John's birth and informed him of his son's mission of full deliverance in holiness from "our enemies" (Luke 1:68-79). Of course, our worst enemies are always on the inside, in this case: sin! John was given **A Burning Commission**, for in proclaiming the soon-coming of God's Messiah, Jesus Christ, John said they would **See The One Who Baptises With Fire.** John saw Him and gave testimony (Matt.3:11; Jn. 1:29-36).

So, rather quickly, we saw that the Law and the Prophets and the Gospel ALL speak Deliverance. The question is: Are you delivered?!

The time will come when deliverance is no longer possible, just as those experienced who refused to enter Noah's Ark. In the last book of the Bible, "Revelation," the writer tells of One he saw, and said "*His eyes were as a flame of fire*" (1:14). Here, the Bible closes with reference to **The Burning Eyes.** This is a partial description of the Glorified Christ, who rose from the dead and ascended back to the Father, and **John Saw The One Who Will Judge By Fire!** You see, **Eternity Demands Deliverance!** Since the morning of the Resurrection, Christ's empty grave gave birth to the heavenly message to Christ's disciples: "*Go quickly and tell!*" We are to experience deliverance, and then join in with the Law, the Prophets and the Gospel in going quickly and telling others of Deliverance before the time comes when they "*say to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb*" (Rev. 6:16). Then it's too late.

All the power to sustain our spiritual life and work is based on Christ's death and resurrection (Mt.28:18-20). St. Paul said that Christ is "*declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.*" (Rom. 1:4). To the crowd of philosophers and debaters at Athens, Greece's "Speaker's Corner," Paul declared "*In the times of their ignorance God has purposely overlooked, but now commands*

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all men everywhere to repent because He has appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man whom He has ordained; whereof He has given assurance unto all men, in that He has raised Him from the dead" (Acts 17:30,31).

Yes, this is a world-wide, international call to every person to stop excusing their disobedience to God, rebellion *against* God and rejection of God. God's designated Deliverance is through the resurrected Christ. It is the privilege of every person on earth to come to Him for full deliverance from sin, our worst enemy. Then, like Moses, and Isaiah and John the Baptist, we can join God's team proclaiming deliverance to the captives everywhere. If someone would consider this as fanciful dreaming and an unnecessary challenge, they should read our daily papers and walk our streets. **Deliverance is needed. Deliverance is available.** But be sure, Judgment is coming and an account must be given. NOW is the time to act, then be determined to keep going, even if others oppose!

To Moses, Egypt's Pharaoh replied "*Who is the Lord that I should obey Him?*" **Isaiah** wrote in amazement of those who heard his words: "*Who has believed our report?!*" To the mere religious big-shots who had no intention of obeying God, **John the Baptist** asked in words of cutting fire, "*You generation of vipers, Who has warned you to flee the wrath to come? Let your lives prove a change in your heart, and do not begin to say, 'We have Abraham as our father.'*" People may trust and put false hope in so many empty things, yet it is deliverance from sin that is needed and that has been provided—for the individual and for the nation. **Lord, deliver us from evil, Amen!**

Victorious Complaining

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deceiving pride? **There are only two paths and two destinations:** We are either helping to spread the carnage, or we are living possessed of one chief purpose: to glorify God and to do our best to see people saved and grown up in Christ. Because God is the God of Revival (Hab.3:2), that means God is the God of the Impossible...IF we co-operate.

(Continued from bottom left) **SO WHAT CAN WE LEARN?** Jeremiah was doing God's will, even though they had put him in prison! The people in Noah's and Sodom's day were not! **LESSON:** All our earthly transactions have the Judgement of God on them, unless we are truly minding God. It is just a matter of time. Yet, if we ARE minding God, "the best is yet to come!"

We meet at Christ Church on the corner of Brent Street and Heriot Road in Hendon (NW4) at 8:45 pm Sundays. Nearest Tube: Hendon Central.

Victorious Complaining!



In the Bible's 3-chapter book of the prophet, **Habakkuk**, we see a man who loved God, obeyed God, yet voiced his perplexity at Jerusalem's approaching destruction by the Babylonian army under **Nebuchadnezzar.** Israel deserved ruin due to its disobedience to God and subsequent idolatry, but the prophet felt it was wrong for God to use the more-wicked Babylonians as instruments of Divine wrath. Perhaps the same was true in spiritually-backslidden Europe when **Hitler** and the Nazis brought terror and destruction.

God doesn't mind if we openly discuss things with Him, and Habakkuk complained *TO* God, not *AT* God (as if to blame Him). Habakkuk couldn't understand God's seeming unconcern, inactivity and silence. Habakkuk went to God, not to man for discussion; not minimising human counsel!

Habakkuk knew very well the evil reign of **King Manasseh**, who I wrote about in our May issue. The story can be read in 2 Kings 21:1-13; 23:25,26; 24:3,4. Manasseh (their own king!) spread idolatry and witchcraft, and filled Jerusalem with innocent blood. No sensitive person would wish to view the panorama of butchered citizens up and down the streets of Jerusalem which later occurred at the hands of the Babylonian army. Yet, in a way, Nebuchadnezzar was only finishing the damning job which their own king began! How many people died under Manasseh, and how many went to Hell under his "grand leadership"? And if Europe and Britain follow the steps of Manasseh, will another Hitler (the coming Anti-Christ?) simply add the finishing touch to what present governments are doing now?

We may learn from Habakkuk not to grow weary of praying, believing and working. God answered Habakkuk by informing him that He *was already* working and would continue. The book of Habakkuk tells of **two types of people and of two results of those lives...**and the choice is ours! Shall we truly live by faith—*real obedient* faith, or shall we live in self-

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PLEASE THINK ABOUT THIS CAREFULLY AS YOU READ IT!

I don't believe I'd buy a property in a city that was about to be entirely destroyed, yet this is what God told Jeremiah to do (Jer. 32)! It was God's promise of the future. Yet, one of Jesus' condemning descriptions of the days of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah was "and they bought, sold, built...**BUT** on the day!" Read it, for it says the days of Noah were likewise, "until the Flood came!" (Luke 17:26-29)