

Year B #361
You Shall Bear Witness
040602-1

Hello! This is Dorothy -

I do not know if you remember, but in **1 Corinthians 15**, we spoke of how the Lord was seen by five hundred brethren at once. No doubt, these were those who had followed the Lord through His crucifixion and resurrection, those who had maintained the integrity of their faith at the time, and those who were obedient to the summons of the Lord Jesus to gather and to be with Him.

But also, we read in **Matthew 28** -

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed and made appointment with them.

17 And when they saw Him, they fell down and worshiped Him .

.. Could you imagine? The same Lord they felt they knew and had traveled with day by day, suddenly, **when they saw Him** , they recognized Him for Who He was and **they fell down and worshiped Him . . .** May you in your heart, every time you think of the Name of the Lord Jesus, fall down and worship Him. There is a lot of discussion of what worship is. We think we get together and turn on some music and do something and that is how we worship. At the Name of Jesus, as we are in His presence, we are to be falling down and worshipping Him.

But notice, there is another little phrase in **verse 17 . . . but some doubted.**

18 Jesus approached and, breaking the silence, said to them, All authority (all power of rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.

19 Go then and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

20 Teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you, and behold, I am with you all the days (perpetually, uniformly, and on every occasion), to the [very] close and consummation of the age. . . - I am there, I am in every situation, right to the close of the age. . . . Amen - (so let it be).

As they met on that mountain in Galilee, the Lord gave the avowed disciples what we call The Great Commission. That was the great commission. The key word in all that the Lord said before His crucifixion and after His resurrection, prior to His ascension, is *witness*. Witness. Witness. Witness. The great commission was given to the Christian Church, that is, to every born-again child of God. This commission carries a personal, individual command. It was never meant for the few, who enter a public ministry as a preacher or as a missionary. Instead, every born-again believer is told to **Go**. Go into our own personal world and be a soul winner. We are to witness to

every creature.

I was talking to a lady who was in a very sad situation; she had just lost her daughter. I said, “How old was she?” She said, “She was forty-one years. She just had a sudden death.” I said, “In the Name of the Lord Jesus, go after forty-one of those people who came to the funeral - friends and relatives. - and trust you will be a witness very clearly.” She took the little book, *Your Quest for God*. I spoke to her again the other day and she said, “I still have a few more to go, but I have spoken to over thirty of those forty-one people I am claiming. To each one, I have personally shared my testimony. I have shared that it could be today, suddenly, as you are sitting there, you, too might drop dead and you are out of this life! I am a witness to them. I am helping them by giving them *Your Quest for God*, that they should read it very carefully and prayerfully and say that little prayer at the end. I am going to follow that up! That is what I am doing!”

What about you? Out of the worst situation that could happen in your life, perhaps the death of somebody or something so terrible and so sudden, are you seeing the opportunity God is giving you? The great commission can only be possible with the giving of the Holy Spirit. This happens when we are born again of the Spirit of God. That is why, as a Christian, I need to be totally committed to the Lord through every situation. I do not need to just have this exciting, high spiritual

moment, as I call it, and then go on to some plateau experience or down into the valley. No, the Lord will personally train you and me through each individual testing and circumstance. For the committed Christian, the Holy Spirit constrains us to recognize that every life we meet is precious unto the Lord. I am called to be a witness. The evangelization of men, women and precious children is my task and the task of each born-again believer who belongs to the true Church. We should meet each other as Christians and say to one another, “What happened through your life this week? Who did the Lord speak to through you? I want to pray for those people.” That is what fellowship and exhortation is about; not “How are you making out and what are you doing?”

You might question how this could happen through your life. It happens when you deliberately yield your life and your lips to Jesus and say, *You are the only Soul Winner. I am the vessel. You do this through Me.* For it says in **John 15: 27 - And ye also shall bear witness . . .** May it be so in your life.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.