

# AOTALK

WHERE THE  
APOSTOLIC COUNCIL  
SHARE THEIR HEARTS

JUNE  
2012



*cotn*  
CHURCH OF THE NATIONS



FROM  
JOHN'S  
HEART TO  
YOURS

## MEDICINE FOR WEARINESS

I found myself in the last month or two often coming to the place of extreme weariness because of the prolonged battle.

I justified this state of being because I had earned it, I deserved it and I had worked hard for it!

Nobody was going to steal my self-pity from me.

After almost 28 years on the eldership of the same church that I have now led for the last sixteen years, I deserved to claim some fatigue. The battle has been long and the challenges many. With all of the issues, disappointments and recurring failures, I found myself dwelling in negativity and failure.

It was a recipe for heaviness of heart and misery, and I was wallowing in it.

Leaders spend a lot of time dealing with problems and not enough time with the ninety nine percent of wonderful, exciting things that are happening in the body of Christ, and good things were happening.

But as a result of where one allows one's mind to spend its time, perceptions can be seriously skewed, and then we play right into Satan's hands.

We are all guilty of losing perspective at times, but we cannot afford to live there.

Maybe your personal life is holding together, but watch the international news for a while and you will soon be convinced that the world is falling apart.

When Jeremiah was prophesying impending disaster for Jerusalem, the people had come to the place where *"the word of the LORD is to them an object of scorn; they take no pleasure in it."* Jeremiah 6:10

We face the reality in the world in which we live, where God's Word is now so compromised in order to be culturally relevant and inoffensive that its power is being lost.

Then the Lord said to Jeremiah: *"Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls."*

Sadly the people said: *'We will not walk in it.'*  
*Jeremiah 6:16 (ESV)*

The greatest revival in the history of the church is now recognized as the one that took place in the 1970's and 1980's, when all across the world the so called Charismatic Renewal drew more unbelievers into the Kingdom of God than any other revival ever has.

My memory of those years is one of a surge of faith and an outpouring of the Spirit.

We have lost much of the power of those days when we read the Word at face value, believed it and did it.

They were the days of the "faith" revival, and simple declaration of the truths of scripture changed us forever.

Somehow we no longer sing the words of scripture as we used to. We focus now on a "Therapeutic God" whose job it is to give us a better life while we try to be morally relevant and are careful not to judge. As long as we don't harm others, then - if it feels good - God must want me to have it.

Our focus is inward and our songs are about me.

It's not working!

The miracle power of God's Word is in bold declaration and uncompromising obedience.

When David got to the end of himself and was greatly distressed and even his band of followers who had been hiding with him at Ziklag turned against him and wanted to stone him to death because their wives and children had been stolen and their houses burned, *"David encouraged and strengthened himself in the Lord his God."* 1 Samuel 30:6

How did he do it?

Firstly, I believe, he went aside with God and waited expectantly for Him. *"... they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;" Isaiah 40:31 (ESV)*

And then He began to quote "The Truth" to himself because *"whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."* Romans 15:4-6 (ESV)

Maybe he pulls out one of his Psalms. He reads it.

Then he shouts for joy in the Lord, telling himself *"praise befits the upright."*

At a time in his life he had to fake madness and humiliated himself by drooling and scratching on the door and then hid himself and his followers in a cave.

But he never gave up.

That's when he sang to God a new song:

*"I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.*

*Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!*

*I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.*

*Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.*

*This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.*

*The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them."* Psalm 34:1-7 (ESV)

**That's** how you encourage and strengthen yourself in the Lord.

**That's** how you get through a bad day.

**That's** how you emerge from a desert.

**That's** the medicine you have to take for a sick heart.

**That's** the treatment for heaviness and weariness.

**That's** the way we get out of ourselves and out of our misery and out of our inward self serving bitterness and become "overcomers" once again.



The declaration of God's Word over your life and obedience to it breaks the chains of Satan's lies and deceit.

Go back to the tested prophecies that have been spoken over your life.

Go back to God's Word and remember what He says about you.

Hide His Word in your heart and speak it over yourself and your family. It is life giving medicine, but if you won't take it, it won't work.

Remembering scripture and quoting it is an ancient path. It has always worked and it's time we got back to it.

Sadly, with everything on computers and Smartphones nowadays, it's becoming a forgotten path.

If you want to live victoriously you've got to bury the life giving scriptures in your heart, sing them in the bathtub and declare them on the road.

I did, and it worked yet again!

Finally, brothers,  
whatever is **true**,  
whatever is **honorable**,  
whatever is **just**,  
whatever is **pure**,  
whatever is **lovely**,  
whatever is **commendable**,  
if there is any **excellence**,  
if there is anything worthy of **praise**,  
think about these things.  
PHILIPPIANS 4:8 (ESV)

John



JOHN & JAYNE SCHOLTZ

## PLEASE DIARIZE THE FOLLOWING DATES:



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