

M A R C H 2 0 1 2

the ARIEL GATE

E-Newsletter

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*Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and **take up his cross daily**, and follow Me. For whoever*

desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for

My sake will save it." (Luke 9:23-24) The protocol for following Jesus is clear. Deny yourself. Pick up your cross daily. Follow Him. Jesus is telling us plainly that we will need to lose our life in order to find it. Yet it is surprising how little this verse is preached in today's Christian circles. We are taught that only good things should happen when

you come to Jesus. He will set you free and give you a blessed life and you will be prosperous in all things. If something 'bad' happens to you, it must be the devil attacking you. Or you are in sin and have a 'door' open in your life. Or your faith is not strong enough to rebuke it. I would like to suggest that many times, God allows 'bad' things and suffering in our lives because this is part of taking up our cross.

There is some suffering required from our lives. If Jesus suffered and learnt obedience to God through suffering (Hebrews 5:8), why do we expect something different? Jesus is our pattern. If He suffered, so will we. Jesus was obedient to the Father, even to the cross. Paul almost dies from whipping, imprisonment and shipwrecks. The apostles are crucified, boiled alive and suffer painful deaths. Many saints through the ages have been burnt at the stake, drowned or decapitated for their faith. And they thought it a privilege... But today, if you experience any level of suffering, there must be something wrong with your faith. I have even heard born-again preachers teach that if Paul had had enough faith, he would have been able to confess himself out of prison. There is something horribly wrong with the doctrine of the Kingdom that we believe today.

We all say that we want to know Jesus. So let us look at what that really means. "...that **I may know Him** and the power of His

resurrection," (Philippians 3:10). Now most preaching stops at this point. We want to know Jesus and His resurrection power so that we can have signs, wonders and healings following us. A demonstration of God's power is our motive for knowing Him. But Paul continues with his sentence, "**and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death**". Paul understands that there is no

resurrection power without the fellowship of the sufferings and conformity to His death.

If you do not want to be conformed to His death, then you **can never** really know him. If you cannot share in His sufferings, you **do not** really want to know Him. Then I have to ask - which Jesus are you trying to know. Which Jesus are you serving? If you think that Jesus is just there to heal you and comfort you and give you all you need and ensure you live a prosperous life - you have created your own god. You are worshipping a false Jesus. Because that is not the Jesus of the Bible.

*"Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, **arm yourselves also with the same mind**, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin".* (1 Peter 4:1) Jesus suffered in His flesh to deal with sin and we will need to have the same mind in order to deal with our sin. You cannot confess your sin away. It takes suffering and struggle to deal a death blow to the flesh. If you are never corrected and rebuked in love, if you have no whip marks - you will still be struggling with the same sin you struggled with when you were saved. We have too many people who are never disciplined in church because preachers are afraid to upset people. We believe that church is to make us feel good about ourselves and encourage us for the next week



and 'pep' us up. We do not want to suffer, we do not want to have to struggle with our flesh and overcome. We just want to be told it will all be alright!

We must expect to suffer in the flesh. Normal Christian life includes suffering. Now I am not talking about suffering because of stupidity. Suffering brought about by stupid decisions is not the suffering that Jesus is referring to. Stupid suffering does not count!!! BUT if you suffer with Christ, it works in you a weight of glory.

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory". (2 Corinthians 4:17) This scripture explains that to the degree that you suffer with Christ, to that same degree you will have glory. No suffering, no glory. If we do not want to lay our lives down, we will have no glory. You do not have to physically die to be a martyr. A martyr is someone who chooses to die to their own flesh every moment of every day. That is a martyr. It is a difficult thing to live for Christ every day and die every moment to your lusts. But this daily dying produces glory in our lives!

"Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy." (1 Peter 4:12 - 13) Peter is telling us that it is not unusual to encounter struggles and 'fiery' trials. This suggests some difficult times! He goes further and encourages us to actually REJOICE when this happens as we are partaking in Christ's suffering. Have any of you heard this message being preached lately? Come to Jesus and suffer. Do not try to confess your struggles away - allow them to fashion glory on the inside of you.

"I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church," (Colossians 1:24). Paul is also rejoicing that he can suffer in his body to make up for the lack in the Body of Christ. He sees it as a privilege. He understands that suffering causes a brokenness that in turn allows the glory on the inside of you to shine forth. Jesus paid in blood for each person to carry the glory. He went to the cross and suffered unto blood to ensure that we could inherit the glory that we had with Him before the foundation of the earth (John 17). He finished His work. Now it is up to us to appropriate that inheritance. Will we take on the same mind and allow the work of the cross in our lives daily. Will we allow suffering and brokenness to shape us and forge the weight of glory that Jesus paid for? Or do we just want a prosperous life?

Blessings

The Ariel Gate Team

 ariel gate

AND THE HOUSE OF DAVID SHALL BE LIKE GOD

ZECHARIAH 12:8

11 - 15 April 2012

Good News Convention Centre
Johannesburg, South Africa



Dr John P. Kelly



Natasha Grbich



Robert Henderson

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

NEW MESSAGES

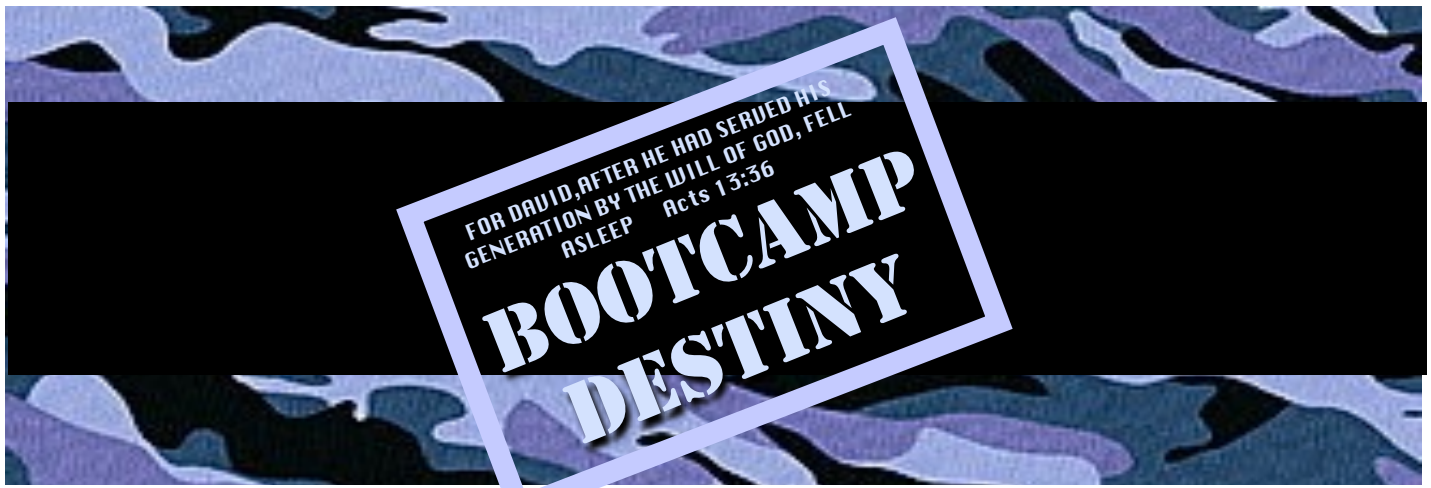
SUFFERING & GLORY - Natasha Grbich

This month's article just touches on this important topic that ALL Christians need to hear! It is an excerpt from a message that Apostle Natasha has been ministering at our Wednesday and Friday meetings. This teaching destroys every picture you had of a 'prosperity' Jesus. It opens your eyes to the truth of who Jesus is, according to the Word!
Double CD - R50

CROSSING OVER - Robert Henderson

An excellent message on developing the mind of a Hebrew - one who has crossed over. As we enter 2012, we have to be able to shift into the new era that is upon us. It is more than a new season, it is a new era. This requires us to leave the last place we were and CROSS over into a new land. Apostle Robert describes the challenges and helps us to overcome them by showing us how to work with God to CROSS OVER!

CD - R30



BOOTCAMP DESTINY was an End-Time-Army enrollment journey that has changed the course of our lives forever. Apostle Natasha gave us a picture of what we are destined to be... **weapons of mass destruction**, far more powerful than any weapon known today. Ready and equipped to take territory for the Kingdom of God.

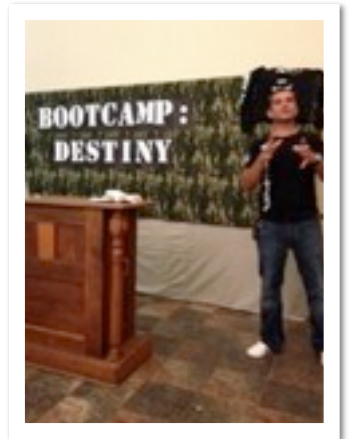
(Sgt) Acacio blessed us with a true testimony of the Gospel of the Kingdom. His words gave us a purpose and excitement to be there, and we all committed to take the next step in Jesus. So there we were, eager soldiers, knowing what we are called to be, with no clue as to how we are going to get there. Then Cheryl brought us comfort as she taught on the Holy Spirit. Laying foundation and absolutely crushing false doctrine, we understood that God will never leave us alone and that the Helper is with us to train and guide and motivate and intercede for us, until we reach our full potential in Christ.

After this Andre taught us on the heart and true repentance, as an act of turning towards God, in joy, and letting Him deal with our sin. Then we were confronted to deal with our deepest issues as Apostle Natasha taught on Sexual Purity and pornography. Most attendees were shocked into light and we came into unity as we understood that you cannot be a weapon of mass destruction if you do not keep yourself pure! Before we can win the war against the enemy, we first have to win the war within ourselves.

By the evening session we were in perfect unity, engaging God in worship, marching and taking territory while shouting the name of Jesus. Then God allowed us to birth the 5 fold ministry for the army and our generation. Acacio concluded the evening by teaching on the Kingdom of God and the Ecclesia. The Kingdom of God is not about the individual, it is about the body of Christ in unity. Apostle Natasha ended the conference by explaining to us that we will be the most feared, radical generation that has ever lived and we will see the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ Jesus in our lifetime. We are to respect honour and learn from our elders and build upon the foundation they laid for us.

We started the weekend uncertain and nervous, but ended the weekend in unity, ready to lay down our lives for the Kingdom of God, anxious to fight this battle and in the end stand victorious. We enrolled in the Army of God knowing that to live for Christ is not to change, but to die!

Pierre van der Walt



ALL MESSAGES AVAILABLE ON CD AND DVD FROM THE OFFICE.