

## THE EVIL WITHIN

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We can well see the trend that the word of God is taking in this meeting. Alleluiah. The evil within, this age-old evil within, that is what is bothering us. I mean, all the preaching you would preach: "You need this," "You need that," "You should be doing this," "You should be doing that,"--it comes to nothing if that evil within remains!

As Mavis spoke, I remembered a vision I had some years ago about the Church. In this vision, we were preparing for a convention and all the might men of God, who we know by name, were coming into the meeting. And the Lord spoke and He said, "There is a bomb planted in the church and it will destroy this whole church on the 20th. Get out now!" He said that today is the 18th, and it was very peculiar that He said a bomb was planted in the church and that it would destroy the church on the 20th, but yet we must get out on the 18th. I know that sometimes, under some circumstances, if you do not act now when God speaks, you will never act again. Sometimes when God speaks a word, and you hear the word, you must act immediately or else you will not act again.

I heard the word last night from Sister Janet and the instructions were clear as to what God wants you to do; and I hear the word now from Mavis, and the instructions are clear; You have something inside that must be removed.

I think God has shown me how to get that "something" out. The only way we are going to get "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in this earth, as it is in heaven," is when we get rid of the kingdoms that reign inside of us: these alien kingdoms that should not be there. They are taking the place of the kingdom of God! You need to understand, it is a displacement that we want. The word was clear last night: "Reject him! Cast him out! Kick him out!" Amen! Alleluiah.

You must have power if you are going to kick out a powerful invader. This invader has come in, and you want power against his power. You do not say to a child to do this, and do that, and do the other, when most of the time, the child does not have the power to overcome the thing within him that is causing that child to do the things that he should not do. Very often the child agrees with you and does not like the wrong. He does not like to cheat; he does not like to lie; but lo and behold, "bam!"

He lies again! He cheats again! And then he wants to hide it from you, so he sins again to hide it. Oh God, help us!

Let me start out with a brighter note (then I come to the duller one afterwards). Let us take Joel, Chapter 2. Let us look at Verse 23. "Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month."

Previously we have seen rain in the Church. (We are talking about revival: God's Spirit lifting us up.) He said that is nothing in comparison to what He is about to give you. He is going to send both the former rain and the latter rain in the first month. In other words, you are going to have a flood! It is not just rain we are talking about now, we are talking about a flood that is going to sweep you off your feet and carry you where you did not want to go. This is the rain we are talking about: God's rain upon the land that totally wipes out the ability of man to protect himself or to stand. It is going to sweep you off of your feet! Amen! This is the rain that we are looking for. This is the revival we are looking for at this time.

NO MORE CHURCH REVIVAL!

NO MORE GOING TO CHURCH,

AND PEOPLE FALLING DOWN

AND SPEAKING IN TONGUES,

AND GETTING UP AND GOING

ON DOING THEIR OWN THING!

AMEN!

In Azuza Street, in about 1907, the power of God was so great that a haze like a smoke came into the building, and it was like a fluorescent kind of a haze that shined. It was a shiny haze that people could not look up; they had to hold their heads down. One brother, who was preaching there, he put a paper bag over his head. Can you imagine seeing a man preaching to you with a paper bag over his head? Amen. It was no joke! The power was so great that the people actually bowed under the stress of this power of God; but within one month, every man who came to that revival and who got blessed and lifted in the Spirit, went out and formed his own thing. Out of that we got about 500 different Church of God and Pentecostal churches.

Separation! Each man took it and made a little kingdom for himself. Nobody saw Jesus! Amen! At least, it seems they saw Him at the time, but they lost the vision, and they went out with a new vision of a church, that, "I am the boss!" "I am the bishop." And so they lost out. They lost the basic tenants of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The basic tenants of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is that Jesus is Head! AMEN! If Jesus is my head, and Jesus is your head, how can I be against you?

They lost it. When you lose that, the first thing that happens is that the devil comes in and he starts speaking to you, and he becomes your Jesus! (Oh God, I am sure you don't hear me....)

The Bible says in 2 Thessalonians 2 that in the last days the antichrist would come in the church. He would show himself as "Christ," and the church would accept him as Christ. That is our problem! You go to somebody, and he says, "The Lord says this" and "The Lord says that." Brethren, most of the time the voice that is speaking to you is not the Lord. I do not want to burst your balloons, but it needs to be busted! It is not God talking to you!

Some of the things that you people are telling me that God says--it is not God! God does not say those things! God tells somebody how to brush his teeth; how to clean their shoes; how to.... Listen! Give me a little break!

You know, all these things that I hear these people talking about, that God tells them this and God tells them that, why didn't God show you that your attitude was wrong? Why didn't God show you the sin in your life! Let me tell you something, when a man meets God the first thing he sees is, "*Oh wretched man that I am*" (Romans 7:24). Amen!

Have you heard about the revival today that they call "The Toronto Blessing." It has all kinds of different things to it now. Do you know, any time you see God, you repent! If I tell you now to repent, the first thing you are going to ask me is, "What must I repent of?" Repent of you! Just repent of being yourself! Amen! When you see Jesus, you feel nasty, filthy, and low down. My God! You want to dig a hole and get down through the ground. That's the man who sees Jesus! Amen!

I preach to you, "Oh, you must pay your tithes. You are robbing God." "Oh, you must do this...." All that is not even necessary when you repent. When you see Jesus, you are going to do what Jesus wants you to do, and nothing more! Amen! The man Isaiah, you know his cousin Uzziah was the king. His cousin was the king, and so he enjoyed a privileged position in the palace. (A prophet in the palace--Isn't that a nice place for a prophet to be?) And so, he could not see a lot of the sins and the wrongs of Uzziah. He did not prophesy about it. I do not know if you understand what I am coming with?

There was one cure that God had for that situation--kill Uzziah. Kill him. Take him home. Give him an opportunity of seeing Jesus in the latter years. God took out Uzziah, and Isaiah said, "*In the year ...* (I would love to say, "the day!") Anyhow, Isaiah said, "*In the year that king Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up...*" (Isaiah 6:1) Amen! And when he saw the Lord, what else did he see? He saw "Isaiah." He said, "*Oh, I am unclean!*" "*Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people with unclean lips...*" (Verse 5). "*I am no good! My God have mercy upon me.*" Oh yes, Jesus! Then could God talk in Israel, and then God was able to talk to the people.

We are not what we think we are. We are just as poor and just as wretched, and as blind and as weak as anybody else out there! Do not bother to criticize anybody out there, because if we were any good (considering the abundance we have received of God), we would be much better!

We need to begin to look inward. Inward! Alleluiah. If you want revival and if you want God to move, then you must begin to repent of what you are. Amen!

And so, as God speaks to me, I just feel wretched and I feel lower, and lower, and lower. All these years, what have we done? Have we come to the point where we say, "*The prince of this world comes and he has nothing in me*"? Have we? Can you say that? Can you say "*The devil does not have anything in me*"?

It is time for us! As a matter of fact, if it is not done now, it is not going to be done! Oh yes! If it is not done now, it is not going to be done! Most of the things that we are saying--"God tells us this," and, "God tells us that"-- it is our minds, and it is the devil; and it is not God! You look at the people who are saying that God tells them this and tells them that, and notice the things that God does not tell them, and you will find out that many of the things that we believe God is saying to us, it is because they are things that we want to do of ourselves. Oh yes! You have the desire in your heart, and the devil looks over there and he sees the little dark spot, and he comes in and he infiltrates it; and all of a sudden you hear a voice in you, and you say, "This is the voice of the Lord!" You are accepting antichrist for Christ! Right here! In our midst!

Now, we are not talking about the people out there who are deceived. We are talking about the people who are not deceived. Let me tell you something now. Do you know that in Matthew, Chapter 25, where it speaks about the ten virgins--five were wise and five were foolish--that God is not talking about people who are deceived? He is talking about the people who are prepared, dressed, and well put together with righteousness for the Wedding! He is talking about the righteous people.

Among the righteous people there are some who are foolish. I do not know how "righteously foolish" can be, but God says that among the righteous people there are some foolish ones of us; and there are some who are not foolish who act foolish sometimes. Oh yes! All of us! And I want to see this foolishness cut out of my life! I want to know that I am standing on good ground with God; that I am not going to go out there and act foolishly! Amen!

Do you know what a foolish man is? Somebody comes against me, and I rise up against the person. It is as simple as that.

There are two descriptions in Scripture for sin. 1 John 3:4 says, "...*sin is the transgression of the law.*" The Word says, "*Thou shalt not kill.*" So if I do not kill, I am righteous according to that rendition. Right? The Word says, "*Thou shalt not steal.*" If I do not steal, I am righteous according to that. "*Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.*" According to that description of sin, if I do not bear false witness against anybody, then I would be righteous. But Jesus said in Matthew 5:21-22, "*You have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment...*"

You cannot do anything wrong against the Law and before God but that you are as sinful as the sinner outside there is! Do you know why? Because, the next description of sin is that sin is the absence of righteousness.

Notice that there is a middle ground: The sinner against the Law on the one side; no sin against the law in the middle, and righteousness over there on the other side. So there is a position of not doing any wrong thing, and yet being guilty of sin.

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God has an expectation concerning you. He expended a lot of time, energy, spiritual time and money upon you to make you what you are; to make you sit here this morning. God did that. And then you turn around, and you take the blessing that God has given you and you use it according to your own mind.

I am not even saying you use it for the devil. I take you out of that—you are not using it for the devil--you are just using it according to your own mind. It means that the righteousness of God is not fulfilled in you because you have not done what God wanted you to do.

So, if you were a good Catholic you would hear of "sins of omission" and "sins of commission." You did not commit any sin, but you omitted to do what you should have been doing. And all of our problems lie in these areas.

Then you have a thing they call "corporate sin." You did not do any wrong, but you only heard about the wrong that some people did, and you agreed with them. Amen? If you are a good Democrat you will agree with Mr. Clinton, because he is a Democrat. So whatever he does wrong, you become a party to it, because you are a good Democrat. I mean, I am just giving you examples.

In the newspaper you saw where somebody had done something wrong, and you said that maybe they should kill him! I heard an evangelist get up and say that such and such a person is so bad that he should be killed. I remember somebody saying that they should kill the Supreme Court judge Warren Berger, because he brought in the killing of the children [abortion].

Now, in saying that, he didn't actually kill anybody, but the very thought makes him guilty. Just by agreeing with those who do the act, you become a party to the act, and before God you become guilty--and you had nothing to do with it! We have to learn to mind our own business; to mind the business of the kingdom of God; to judge righteous judgment.

People do wrongs, and people do wrongs against you, and you begin to retaliate in your mind. Or, sometimes you take the opposite of retaliation, "Poor me." "Oh, I am so beaten. I am so murdered by all these people...." You know? You are sinning! Instead of praising God that you get some bounces and licks, and that you can be hurt and kicked and bruised like Jesus, you are there going on the wrong side of self-pity.

We can become guilty of the body of sin that is out there! We call it "corporate sin." I come into service, and I see all the girls and they have on long dresses and they are so nicely dressed; but if I meet you out there, in the week, or when you are at the beach--you are not that at all! You look exactly like the sinners! It does not mean righteousness, but it means that at heart and in your mind you are like them! In your mind you are agreeing with the body of sin! The sexual revolution!

I do not know if you understand me? Somebody might say, "Oh, he's an old time man! He's a 'clothesline' preacher." "He's preaching the clothesline!" I am not preaching clothesline! If I see you walking naked down the street, I do not have to preach anything. I definitely know where you are! But, can you find out where you are? My knowing where you are does not help anybody.

God is saying that there is sin within, and that the seed of evil that was planted within us from the time of Adam was to be eradicated in the Name of Jesus. The seed

of the destroyer was to be completely destroyed in us, and we are laxing on the job! We are not going after this seed in us!

It is easy to see the seed of evil in other people. "Yes, you!" "Yes, you!" "I can see you so clearly." "I CAN SEE YOU!" It takes one to know one! I am telling you, every demon can see the other demon. Did you ever think of that, that demons see one another? Now, I am not saying if you see the evil then that means that you are evil, because the Spirit of God can see the demons too! What I am saying is that it is easy to see the wrong in other people, but if you do not see the wrong in yourself you are not growing in the Spirit at all!

I am telling you how to get rid of what Sister Janet spoke about last night, and what Sister Mavis spoke about today and what she has been speaking about for several days now concerning what the Lord is showing her. So, you must see that God is indeed saying a word to us here, and that we need to hear and to move upon this word; and we need to stop fooling around with all the other things that are disturbing us in the world; and to begin to look inside.

Do you know why? This morning Mavis had us to ask ourselves the question, "If Jesus walked through the door at this moment, would I be ready?" The answer most people were saying to themselves was, "No." So when are you going to get ready? If you know that you would not be ready now, when would you be ready, and what would make you ready?

I will tell you what will make you ready. It is repentance! It is as simple as A B C. Repentance makes you ready, so that the moment you think of Jesus, you say, "Oh God, forgive me of all my sins. Deliver me, Lord God! Do not let me abide in any form of sin."

When you talk about sin, most of the sin comes with our relationships with one another. The manifestation is in how you think of other people; how you think of the other human beings; how you think of your brother and your sister. [When you see Jesus concerning these things, when you come into His presence], you will realize that your thinking is not right.

We were in Joel, and He said, "I will send you the latter rain and the former rain in the first month." Oh yes! "I will send it to you." But, brethren, do you know that we are stopping God? We are stopping God from doing what He has to do. Turn with me now to Judges, Chapter 19, and the first verse divulges a secret. "And it came to pass in those days, when there was no king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite sojourning on the side of mount Ephraim, who took to him a concubine of Bethlehem-judah."

The first thing it says is that "...there was no king in Israel." **Any time you have not made Jesus Christ king, any time Jesus Christ is not firmly in place in your heart as king, you are heading for trouble.** To have Jesus firmly in place in your heart as king means that every thought, every action, every desire, and every plan--Jesus is head of it all. "I love this Lord. I want to do it Lord. I feel to do it, but, my God, if you say 'No,' it is 'No' for me."

Some of us make God say "Yes." In other words, we get an answer, a word, from somewhere else to say "Yes." Sometimes God is very silent. He did not say anything, but we get a word from our own minds or from the Devil to say, "Yes, go ahead!"

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"There was no king in Israel," and this man was a "Levite sojourning on the side of mount Ephraim." He was an "Ephraimite," meaning to say that he was of the Firstfruits Company. Chapter 20 says that his wife (concubine) had left him, and that this man went out and he was going to reclaim her. He went into her father's house, and they ate and they drank, and they decided eventually that it was time for him to go. But night came upon him when he came to a certain city of Benjamin and when he stopped there, the Benjamites came out, and you know the situation, how they abused his wife and wanted to kill him. And in the morning when he went and saw her laying dead at the door, he cut her into twelve pieces and sent one piece to each tribe of Israel, and told them his story.

The whole thing was so shocking and so revolting to Israel, that they decided to get together to punish the people who did this thing; but when they went to punish them, the tribe of Benjamin said, "No! We will not allow you to punish these men." They said, "Give us the men and let us punish them according to the laws of God and to wipe out this sin from among us." The Benjamites said, "No."

These Benjamites did not commit the sin. They were only protecting those who committed the sin. They said, "These people are our brothers. We will not allow you to kill them." We call this corporate sin.

The whole eleven tribes of Israel gathered together, and it says in Verse 1 of Chapter 20, "Then all the children of Israel went out, and the congregation was gathered together as one man, from Dan even to Beersheba, with the land of Gilead, unto the LORD at Mizpeh."

It transpired that they went before God and said, "Lord God, what shall we do? Shall we go up in war against Benjamin?" (We are talking about Church, you know? We are talking about war in the Church through sin.) "Shall we go up against Benjamin to fight against them because of this evil that they have done?" God said, "Yes. Go up against them."

Do you know what happened? When they went up, the Benjamites beat them back and killed 22,000 of them. They went back to God and said, "God, what is happening? You tell us to go up to battle, and we went up, and then they killed us!" God said, "All right, you go up again." They went up again and the Benjamites beat them and killed 18,000. They said, "God, what is happening?" He said, "All right, now you go up a third time, and this time you will overcome." They went up and they did overcome.

What is the story? What is that story for? Do you understand what God was doing? God was cleansing Israel! The same sin that was in the brothers over there was also in them! God was cleansing Israel. The same sin that was in the one tribe of Israel was in the other eleven tribes! So, God used it to cleanse the whole of them. Amen! We are talking about corporate sin--sin that we participate in every day without even thinking about it.

Now somebody said, "I am not going to pay taxes to this government, because the government is using the taxes to make armaments, and to do this, and to do the other." "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." It is not your business what Caesar does with it. **Our business is the Church!** Amen! The Church is our business, and we are not taking care of it properly. God wants us to repent.

Turn to Isaiah, Chapter 28, and we read from Verse 14,

*Isaiah 28:14-21*

14 *"Wherefore, hear the word of the LORD, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem.*

15 *"Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves:*

16 *"Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.*

17 *"Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.*

18 *"And your covenant with death shall be disannulled. Your agreement with hell shall not stand, when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.*

19 *"From the time that it goeth forth it shall take you: for morning by morning shall it pass over, by day and by night: and it shall be a vexation only to understand the report.*

20 *"For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it.*

21 *"For the LORD shall rise up as in Mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act."*

Now, God spoke in Verse 13 of this same chapter in Isaiah of Him taking them, and them falling "backwards," and being "snared" and "taken." Now, He was talking here about the Holy Ghost, but when we look at what is happening now [in what they are calling revival], we find people falling down. Apparently they are thinking that this is Isaiah 28, where it speaks about, "We have fallen down; we are snared and taken." But the proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof. When you look at the results—have those people really been delivered?

I come tonight and I fall down, and I give all those manifestations that Isaiah 28 talks about, and I get up and I come back tomorrow night and fall down again! What is that? That is not what Isaiah is talking about. It says that they shall be snared and taken, and God will rule over them. I think, brethren, if our salvation, or our coming to church, or whatever we do, is not bringing us to the point of repentance, then we are working in vain. It is an exercise in futility. Believe me, it is an exercise in futility.

You come to church;  
you have a form of godliness;

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you praise God; you sing; you feel good;  
you go home. You come back to church; you praise again;  
you sing;  
you feel good.

You do it again and again,  
year after year! There must be repentance.

**THERE MUST BE A CHANGE.**

**PEOPLE MUST COME FORTH AND BEGIN TO DO WHAT GOD WANTS THEM TO DO!**

I see the little magazine *Keeping in Touch* being put out by the people here. It is not perfect, but I am so glad for it. I am praising God that somebody is getting up and doing what God has put in their hearts to do. Amen! Yes! If you criticize what they are doing, then what are you doing? What are you doing? Are you doing what God has put within you to do?

If my car operated like how we operate as Christians, I would never get here! Some parts would say, "Well, I don't like how the other part is working, so I am not going to work with them." What happens next is that I jam up on the road and have to call the wrecker! All because one little senseless part did not work. But God has given us the power to do, and to work; and those who are not functioning should begin to function! Alleluiah! It took us so many years to come to that point of understanding. Everybody wants to preach! And nobody listens. Isn't that something?

We need to begin to submit to the Spirit of God, but the FIRST thing we need is repentance! You say, "All right, I am ready to repent. Tell me what I must repent for?" The first thing that you repent for, is being like you are.

I am not satisfied. You are not satisfied. God is not satisfied! It is too long a time that I have been what I am! God says, "Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). I do not see perfection, and I am not "happy." Amen. I am happy for what God is doing. I praise God for His mercies, and when I think of the goodness of Jesus, my soul cries out "Alleluiah! Thank God for saving grace." But when I think of me--"What have I done with what God has given me?"--I am not satisfied! Praise God.

I am asking you, brethren, to get into a mind of repentance, and to ask God, "Where have I failed You?" "Why am I not satisfied in myself that I am all that God wants me to be? How can I do more for God?" I am not talking about works, now. I am talking about something that is coming from inside to outside. "Where can I be more transparent, so that the glory of God shines out of me?" Alleluiah!

I was talking recently about Charles Finney. He was one of the great preachers that God blessed the Church with in the 1800's, coming onto 1900. A man invited him to his factory, and he was showing him the beautiful factory--the machines and everybody at their machine working. And Finney started walking from the back

coming up, and as he passed each machine, the operator fell to the floor; and when he came out, the whole factory was on the floor repenting. He did not say a word. Amen.

Another man described his experience with Finney. He went to mock him. These guys got together and said, "Let us go out there and see that foolish man, that idiot. Let us have a good time of fun." So they went out to have a good time of fun.

He said they rode up on a hill and were coming down, and Finney was out there in a pasture preaching to the people. The man said he saw the people carrying on, but that they were so far away they could not even hear what was going on; and as they started to laugh at what they saw, he felt himself slipping off his horse. He tried to keep himself up, but "Bam!" to the ground he fell. When his companions saw it, they spurred their horses and took off and got away, but Finney got this man, and he became a great preacher himself.

We are talking about what is in your heart. A mind stayed on God! A heart that is pure! A mind "stayed" on God (See Isaiah 26:3). Every evil thought that comes, you rebuke it! "Oh God, I do not want to think that about my brother. I do not want to see the bad things about him. I DO NOT WANT IT!" And you have your HEART STAYED ON GOD! Do you know what happens? God begins to manifest through you without you saying one word!

I remember the days when we used to do evangelistic work, and Mavis and I would pray, and say, "Lord God, we want six souls tonight." When we went to the meeting there were only three people there, so we could not get six souls; but no sooner than we started praising God, people just walked in right from the street and fell at the altar. Oh, yes! They would just come in and fall at the altar. Every single night! We were having meetings every night and every single night people would come in and fall at the altar. You know, that place now has over five thousand people in that church. God blessed that place, and I do not know if the revival has ever stopped. Amen.

I heard a story about Wigglesworth. This woman was praying for her husband. He was as wild as a deer and having a good time. He would not listen to God or anything. Wigglesworth had stayed at the house for the night, and was ready to leave, and the woman said, "But you have not prayed for my husband. He is still not saved." Wigglesworth said, "The bed. The bed."

Okay. The woman did not understand what he meant, but her husband went to lie down on the bed, and he was tormented and he could not help himself, and he just got saved! Wigglesworth had lain down on the bed and prayed to God Almighty that He would take hold of this man. God honored his word so much that when the man went and laid down on the bed, the Spirit of God got hold of him. Amen! Glory to God.

Be like that! You have the capacity. You have the ability. You have the Spirit of the Lord. Believe God! Amen! And it will come to pass. But repent first. If you want this power of God, then repent. Amen. Just repent. Alleluiah!

Let us stand and pray.

Lord God, we have heard Your voice. Deliver us, Oh Father. Give us a repentant heart. Give us a spirit, Lord God, to be able to come before the throne of grace, and to lay down our hearts. Alleluiah. Loose us, Oh God, from the chains that bind us.

Chains that enmesh us like cobwebs and ensnare and even prevent us from repenting! Bring us to repentance, Lord God, we pray. Alleluiah! Alleluiah!

Let us all pray together. Let us just cry to God. Let us just ask God to take us--body, soul, and spirit--and to quicken us and to deliver us. Lord God, bring us into the place that You want us to be in today. Alleluiah. Alleluiah. Thank You, Jesus....

