FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR RANKIN

Trusting to Enter God's Kingdom

Almighty God is an unseen Spirit. Being so, He is a Thinker of "Spiritual Thoughts;" not natural thoughts. (Isaiah 14:24) From His Thoughts, God speaks Words. His Words always manifest, or come to pass. This is important to note. This is how He created the worlds. Hebrews 11:3 declares, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made by things which do appear." The unseen God created the worlds through "spoken words." He also created us "new spirit beings," just like Himself, inside Christ. (II Corinthians 5:17) In Christ, we are "new thinkers" of God's Thoughts and "speakers" of His words. We receive from Him a spirit of Faith. II Corinthians 4:13 declares, "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken: we also believe, and therefore speak." There is absolutely no fear or unbelief inside of God's Thoughts.

A Secret Kingdom

God has a secret "Thought" **Kingdom**. It is located inside the Holy Ghost, whom He sent from Heaven to dwell inside our hearts. *(Romans 14:17)* He has ordained that our spirit **enter** His Kingdom and reign "with Christ" over all negative thoughts and negative manifestations that operate on the earth.

The Way to God's Kingdom

God has <u>ordained</u> and <u>designed</u> "the way" (there is only one) to reach His **Kingdom**. It is by His Faith operating in us as we go "through" much **tribulation**. (Acts 14:22) Be aware that tribulations carry physical and emotional pain. Therefore, it is "through" overcoming much pain that we enter His Kingdom. (St. John 16:33) We cannot go around ordained tribulations, only "through." them. As we overcome tribulations, our spirit moves upward in Christ toward God's Kingdom. (St. John 16:33)

We must Trust God

We get "through" tribulations by "trusting" God. He is always with us and "takes" us through tribulations. Trusting Him to do so is an active <u>work</u> of our <u>heart</u>. Since we *think* inside our heart, trusting God is a "specific" thinking work. We think that: (1) God is always with us, for He will never leave us nor forsake us and (2) He will see us though troubles regardless of how difficult they may be. (II Corinthians 2:14)

Now, we must "speak" what we think from God, not how our situation looks. Remember, the Holy Spirit within us (where God's Kingdom is located) is greater than any problem that we might face.

Total Reliance—While going though tribulations, we must trust in the Lord with all our heart. (*Proverbs 3:5*) Each of us possesses **confidence**. In times of troubles, God searches our heart and sees where we place it—in Him or elsewhere. Confidence in God involves a thought of "dependency" on Him linked to a thought of "expectation" from Him. God rewards such thinking. (*Psalm 62:5*)

Finally, we cannot think two thoughts at the same time. Problems tend to "pressure" us to think upon them, away from God's thoughts. When we think about what God has said in the face of difficulty, then focus on the problem itself, know that we **waiver** in thinking, although there is no need to do so. (*James 1:6-7*) Such thinking inhibits us from receiving victory. We must trust God who promises to always make a way to escape every problem. (*I Corinthians 10:13*) God Bless.