



February 1990

Dear Corps and Staff:

God bless you in that name above all, Jesus Christ.

Here are some things I shared at the last Corps Night of the '80s on December 13, 1989.

As we have recently closed the 1980s, there are many things we could reflect upon. Nationally, the decade opened with the president of our country making a "papier-mâché" gesture against the USSR's savage attacks in Afghanistan by withdrawing us from the Olympic Games. This "pseudo-stand" followed upon the heels of such acts of cowardice as giving away the Panama Canal, dismantling our military, and setting back our Central Intelligence Agency almost irreparably. The decade showed signs of strength with the coming of the next president, who publicly stated the most logical things I'd ever heard said in my lifetime (from a man in his position) about the tyranny of the USSR. He went about to restrengthen our military and showed positive believing, resolve, and aggressiveness. Yet he ended his term making overtures to the enemy, thus setting the pattern for a series of arrangements by his successor that might very well prove to be devastating to our national security and the freedom and quietness we have enjoyed through the years. We must certainly pray and believe this will not happen, as the Word gives us the privilege to do. God's Word remains bright, but the political horizons are very dim.

The decade started in our ministry with our father in the Word declaring the '80s to be the decade to take the Word over the world. It also opened with his teaching to The Way Corps the greatest revelation ever given to the Church, the revelation of Ephesians. Some persevered for nearly 10 years against the adversary's methods to thwart God's Word going over the world. What started very promising in the early '80s as far as strength in leadership, solidarity, like-mindedness, and a development of a real international impact that could have been the groundwork for the Word genuinely being available in every country, in every village, in every nation of the world, was devilishly attacked and pulled out from under us in the mid-80s. Vicious attacks based on envy, jealousy, and the love for power caused the hurt. These attacks rode in on the heels of the great emotional and mental hurt surrounding the falling asleep of our wonderful Dr. Wierwille. Dr. Wierwille once said that **the Word of God would go over the world in direct proportion to our leadership "cop-out" ratio.** We certainly observed the vision of Word Over the World in the '80s sorely weakened and almost dissolved by that very leadership "cop-out" ratio. Many formerly "salted" Corps and even clergy made their choice to be a part of that ratio and now hide behind cliché and rhetoric inspired from a conscience seared with a hot iron. So many now proclaim to be the guru and preserver of truth, the current "flavor of the month" regarding preserving Dr. Wierwille's work or whatever they say. They erode genuine believing from the hearts of God's people, causing devastation and loss in believers' lives. One in particular especially rode in on the emotional hurt of Dr. Wierwille's death. He very clearly contributed greatly to Dr. Wierwille's sickness unto death before laying the blame for it at the feet of us Trustees and the Corps of the U.S.A. He then consciously with a cloak of covetousness and maliciousness endeavored to break down everything Dr. Wierwille had worked so diligently to set up in the transfer of leadership to us Board of Trustees. The adversary almost succeeded in reducing us three men to "shells of our former selves," leading us to a guilt- and an emotion-based obedience to this man and his decisions. That was my error, our error, and thank God for His mercy, grace, and forgiveness. He convinced us by manipulation and half-truth that he was the true bearer of the light and the true head man spiritually of our day and time as designated by Dr. Wierwille. Obviously, this contradicted what Dr. Wierwille had developed for many years in preparing our ministry to accept the new leadership that he appointed by guidance. Of course, he made this series of decisions *before God* when he was in wonderful health with ample time to consider, also involving the counsel of his two wonderful brothers on the Trustees, Ermal Owens and Uncle Harry, as well as with further counsel from Dr. Donald E. Wierwille, Mr. Howard R. Allen, and, indeed, Mrs. Wierwille and the entire Wierwille family.

We have initiated some "rebound" in our ministry that is beginning to make an impact, wherever there are hearts tender to receive and eyes that desire to see and ears that want to hear from our teaching. The '80s closed out with our country perhaps on the precipice again of great compromise and great devastation. Yet God's Word is the star that shines brightly in the dark night of politics, religion, and greed. And there are encouraging signs of the rebounding of our ministry by the lives of some who have not succumbed to the leadership "cop-out" ratio in the Corps and in the leadership.

For many months now, the Board of Trustees has endeavored to help our people in "cleaning house" in their minds and in their lives regarding the contaminated weakness (and, I might add, contaminated viciousness) that has infiltrated our friendships, our families, our Twigs, our very lives. Again, I remind you of so many truths that we have covered through

the months, and perhaps I can add further insight to help you make up your mind totally to settle accounts in your life with others, to clean house from the contaminated "pseudo-commitment" of those who hide behind well-worn phrases and mock sincerity (not a godly sincerity, but that of fleshly wisdom). The Word of God in no uncertain terms tells us, regarding those who *consistently* turn their back on the way God would have the Church to function in our day and time, that we should beware (Philippians 3:2); withdraw (I Timothy 6); mark out and avoid (Romans 16); depart from and separate (Acts 19); reject, or excuse ourselves graciously (Titus 3:10); hate [or ignore, be indifferent to] every false way (Psalm 119); be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers and come out from among them and be ye separate (II Corinthians 6); evil communications or associations corrupt good manners or ethics (I Corinthians 15); cast out the scorner, Proverbs 22 teaches us; and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage (Galatians).

Many claim irrationally that they are walking in love; yet the Word of God says that it's love to **keep His commandments**. When it comes to people who are contaminated, blinded, and have by free will accepted spirits of slumber as well as the perspective and demands of deceiving devil spirits, even through the lives and mouths of some of their closest friends and relatives, then the *loving* reality is to do what those very scriptures have said. Do God's commandments. *That* is love. **Withdraw, beware, avoid, mark, separate, depart, reject, cast out, ignore, come out from among them** in order to protect your mind and life and the Word of God that you, as a steward of the Mystery, are challenged to be salted to, to protect, and to cover—not only for yourself, but for your family, your potential families, and the lives of those that God knows have hungry hearts to receive your specific help and *your* specific ministries of deliverance. What did Dr. Wierwille ever mean when he said we have no friends when it comes to the Word? Does that mean we endeavor to get along with, compromise with, and fellowship with the contaminated and the unsalted? Come out from among them, God's Word says, and be ye separate. It certainly cannot mean to continue in fellowship with them. I know that from the Word of God as well as from the example of Dr. Wierwille's life through the years.

The Word of God is the Word of Life and contains all things that pertain unto life and godliness and meets every need; therefore, it should be obviously obvious that the Word of God deals with these types of situations. At times we must decide to withdraw. The Word of Life directs us to beware. That is walking in love. Remember the great orientalism of "shaking the dust off our feet"? We do put off all bitterness and animosity, but we certainly do turn and walk away from those who choose to be unsalted, compromised, and indeed unsound and insane in their minds as they corrupt and manipulate the Scriptures.

When it comes to practical realities of life like our families, our homes, our Twigs, Power for Abundant Living classes, and our friendships, we must make up our minds to eliminate the contamination and move the vicious, unsalted ones out by departing from and avoiding. Remember, Paul took the disciples and moved to the school of Tyrannus. Perhaps the Book of Titus, especially verses 1:9 and following, is so very appropriate as God's wonderful Word to our day and time and as a leadership epistle that we as Way Corps must especially wake up to and heed.

Verse 9: "Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught [that would include the application as well as the teaching of it], that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."

Verse 10: "For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision [which simply refers to the legalism propounded by unsalted leadership]."

Verse 11: "Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert [overturn, overthrow] whole houses [families, Twigs, classes], teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake." That's the motive! I Timothy 6:10 is still the truth.

Look at verse 14: "Not giving heed to . . . [Judean] fables [that's the legalism, the legalistic clichés and teachings that might appear on the surface to be accurate but indeed just bring devastation and hurt], and commandments of men, that turn from the truth."

Verse 15: "Unto the pure all things *are* pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving *is* nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled."

Verse 16: "They profess that they know God; but in works [practical living] they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient [and that would not only be to God, but also to the proper powers in the Church], and unto every good work reprobate [void of judgment]."

Mouths must be stopped. Houses and minds must be cleared of contamination. Aggressively standing on and boldly speaking and living the **light** of God's Word is what cuts off the mouths from being able to **hurt tenderhearted people of God who truly want to stand and walk**. You see, they're going to keep talking on and on; but if we can teach our people to avoid, then as far as our lives go, practically speaking, their mouths are stopped. Or if they indeed have infiltrated our Twigs, we can confront them. The leadership "cop-out" ratio is, again, the key. Make sure you don't join that number, but remain faithful as the remnant according to the grace of renewed-mind believing as we move into the 1990s, our day and time.

The great Epistle of II John sets things beautifully also. Notice that the context of the admonition is the **practical application and walking** of the Word of God.

Verse 1 refers to those “whom I love in the truth” and also “all they that have known [*ginōskō*] the truth.” That’s practical application. Verse 2 speaks of “the truth’s sake” which “dwelleth in us.” It dwells by practical application. Verse 4 says that God rejoices greatly that He found the children “walking in truth, as we have received [*lambanō*] a commandment from the Father.” Verse 5 exhorts “that we love one another.” Verse 6 gives that great definition of the love of God, “that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.” Verse 7 speaks of “many deceivers” who “are entered into the world.” The rest of the verse speaks very clearly, as we recall the context, of those “who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.” Now, these scriptures might not seem to apply to many of our brethren who no longer walk with us because they still are born again, even say many of the right things. Yet when it comes to **practical living**, this is indeed a description of the manifestation of their lives. Practical living is the issue in II John as it is in I John, the epistle on fellowship. The great deceiver is the adversary, and the antichrists of the day are those born of the seed of the serpent. But when one walks away from God’s Word, doesn’t his practical life and logic and thinking and the effects of his life take on those characteristics? They absolutely do! Still born again but living very devilishly. They can SAY with their mouths that they believe the Word of God, but as Titus says, in works they are abominable, reprobate, and contrary to God, even though with their mouths they profess that they know God.

Now follows in conclusion the great practical admonition of II John that is so timely regarding our families, our lives, our homes, our Twigs, our Power for Abundant Living classes, our businesses, our friendships and relationships: “Look to yourselves.”

Verse 8: It’s each person’s responsibility that we “lose not those things which we have wrought.” Aramaic says “have accomplished.” That’s talking about renewed mind. Don’t lose it. Spiritual perception and awareness: don’t lose it. The disciplined walk in love and operating manifestations: don’t lose it. Strength of mind and heart: don’t lose it.

Verse 9: “Whosoever transgresseth . . .” One text reads “goes beyond God.” In other words, whosoever goes beyond what the Word says, goes outside of the context of decency and order, outside of the framework of a lockbox, outside of the context of controlling the tongue. This word “transgress” means to go beyond God. Isn’t that something?

Remember the literal of Romans 12:3: “Control your thinking”? Not to do this is to “transgress.” That’s why it ties in to their “mouths must be stopped.”

“. . . and abideth not [means to remain] in the doctrine [or the teaching] of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the . . . [teaching] of Christ [context is walking the truth, living the truth], he hath both the Father and the Son [in the renewed mind].”

Verse 10: “If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine [this teaching in life-style and living (remember context), even though it might be there in talk], receive him not into *your* house, neither bid him God speed.”

The word “bid” means “to exhort with passion.” It means “to say with sentiment, with emotion.” In other words, the Word says don’t give a heartfelt wishing of the best to a person who doesn’t walk the Word. “God speed . . .” How could we intend God’s blessings on someone who has indicated consistently and willfully that they do not abide and walk in the truth! Therefore it’s a waste of words and a condoning of that behavior and action, and literally in my heart, taking the name of the Lord in vain. The Word says don’t wish “God speed.” God’s blessings, God’s best with true compassion and believing, to someone who walks contrary. And *this* is love, not what somebody else thinks is loving! *This* is love!

One literal translation of “God speed” is: “I am glad to see you.” The Word says don’t be glad to see them. What communion hath light with darkness? I’m not glad to see darkness. You don’t put up with it. Get rid of it. You walk away. You do something. You don’t put up with it! And don’t tell me it’s loving to let this kind of counterfeit people infiltrate our lives. It’s stupid! It is not loving! It is contrary to God’s Word; so I don’t care what anyone thinks in the emotion of their mind. This is the Word of God! This is love! Also, it doesn’t say to be bitter and have animosity, but it teaches to make up your mind! To “bid God speed” means to “rejoice over” someone, “to delight in.” No, I don’t “delight in.” I don’t delight in seeing them, sitting with them in fellowship. I don’t welcome them into my heart, life, home, family, Twig, or Power for Abundant Living classes. It’s God’s property! Don’t “bid them God speed.” You have no responsibility to allow that contamination in your home, your Twig, your family, your life! And they’ll try to tell you you’re unloving. Tell them to read the Book and go home, or go home and read the Book!

Lamsa indicates that “bid him God speed” means “neither bid him to eat salt.” And think of the Eastern custom on hospitality. When you allowed someone in your home, you laid your life down to protect them. That’s what it means “bid with emotion, passion,” “to say with passion God speed.” You do not give them hospitality, trust, and heart, in turning the very resources of your home and life over to them.

Galatians talks about false brethren that creep in unawares to spy out your liberty in Christ. You know what your liberty in Christ is? That some of you still stand with The Way International! They condemn you immediately because you listen to what I say. They condemn you immediately because you don't stand with one of the other gurus of so-called "truth." They condemn you immediately if you abundantly share to The Way Ministry, if you stand with us Trustees, if you fellowship in The Way Tree. They spy out *your* liberty that you have to make up your own mind. They work to erode your heart with good words and fair speeches. They endeavor to deceive with distorted logic laced with emotional bribery. That's why the Word says "avoid." You don't try to co-exist with gangrene; you cut it out.

Verse 11: "For he that biddeth him . . ." That again is to attend with passion, to say so with sentiment and heart. "For he that biddeth him [rejoicing, biddeth him] God speed is partaker [and that's *koinoneō*, full sharing] of his evil deeds."

How do you like that? That's God's Word, and the Word of God is the will of God. And if you love God, you keep His commandments, and those commandments aren't grievous. It blesses you and your family and your life, and if you don't heed it, you're contaminated. If there's abomination in the camp, as the Old Testament notes, then there's destruction in all categories. If the abomination is removed, then there is deliverance in all categories. The word "evil" is "harassing evil." We are fully sharing in the harassing deeds of evil if we intend "God speed" to those who walk contrary. I'm not talking about new believers in a Twig who have bad thoughts. I'm not talking about just wonderful people who are there to learn. We're talking about those who have had the Word of God, have known better at one time, have stood, and now consciously and viciously stand against and try to flatter with words and bribe with emotions. It says you don't bid them "God speed."

*Forgiveness*, yes; but not *fellowship* with, not until someone proves that he or she has a heart to once again become salted. It's interesting that the word "not" in these verses is the conditional "not"—not the absolute—the word "not" and "neither," meaning that if they would indicate a desire to honestly live God's Word again, yes, they could enter back into the fellowship of your heart and home. Remember we are not to be ignorant of Satan's devices, and we wrestle not against flesh and blood. **These scriptures that are part of the great revelation of the Word of Life speak very loudly to us.**

I have observed time after time, in all categories of life that I can observe, that God's people have been thwarted and denied and impeded from deliverance in their lives because they have not withdrawn from the contaminated ones. As long as there is an abomination and spiritual contamination left in their "camp," then the deliverance of God will be thwarted and impeded. Fellowship with the unbelieving believers will keep the "foot on the hose," if not sever it completely, as far as deliverance in life is concerned. I have also observed and experienced the great deliverance and healing that does come into manifestation when one does heed God's Word and withdraws. Deliverance is yours to claim. It is manifested for those who will stick their neck out with renewed mind and *decide*. Deliverance will be impeded, thwarted, and hindered as long as people continue to ride the fence, which brings certain devastation and loss.

Yes, the enemy can roar; but he cannot pounce if we refuse to quit and continue to move ahead with genuine sound-mind thinking and application of the truth.

So, as we open the '90s, my exhortation to you is to again burn the bridges and settle your accounts spiritually in relationships with people. Make sure they know where and with whom you stand. If confrontation is necessary, speak up. Clean house completely and spiritually, according to this wonderful Word of God. Do your best for Him, yourself, and God's people. It is the only way to go if we have ears to hear and eyes to see and if we truly want to walk the truth. Remember Matthew 12:30. It is a great truth that applies to life in any and all circumstances despite the criticisms that have come up. . . . "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."

Well, let's be with God, with His Son, Jesus Christ, and with and in companionship with one another, as the Word of God directs.

Sincerely,  
In Christ,



L. Craig Martindale

PS. I'd suggest you hear and work: the Corps Night that I taught on November 15, 1989, *Acts 1:4: The Salt Covenant*—your Limb coordinator has the teaching on tape; next, the Sunday Night Service, *Renewed Mind to Power: Loins, Heart, and Feet*, tape #1522.