

Dear Friend of **Abiding Above**,

December 2012

This past year we have seen many brothers and sisters in Christ come together in some way to pray for our nation. That has been good and much needed. We felt sure that God would change Washington during this past election. That did not happen.

From prayer groups, prayer movements, prayer newsletters, prayer breakfasts, prayer lunches, and prayer vigils, I've heard men and women tell about praying all night face down on the floor. We have seen people pray at political events touching every single seat in large auditoriums that seat thousands. I have heard millions of dollars have been raised because we are a nation in crisis and hucksters have used this crisis and prayer events to fleece God's sheep.

We have all received numerous emails, newsletters and publications with things like this written in them:

"I am praying for a God sent revival in our local church. We will meet tonight, tomorrow and Wednesday at 7:00PM each night to pray. But we will not have revival until God rends the heavens and comes down in a special manifestation of His presence."

Here is another one:

"What is needed in the whole world today is a prayed-down Holy Ghost revival! For God to come down! For His Holy Spirit to convict sinners – in the Church and out – of sin. This is the paramount need everywhere today!"

When people cry out to God for revival one of the most often quoted Bible verses is:

Isaiah 64:1 – *"Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence ..."*

My friend, we don't have to beg God for what He has already done. He has come down – into the heart of every believer! Do we not acknowledge this when we sing in our local churches, *"Heaven came down and glory filled my soul"*?

Galatians 4:4-7 – *"But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who*

were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, **God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts**, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore **you are no longer a slave but a son**, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."

Jesus said, "It is finished!" **John 19:30**. After Jesus completed the work that God the Father sent Him to do, He ascended to heaven. God the Father sent God the Holy Spirit Who now lives inside of the true child of God.

My friend, there would never have been a problem in Washington if there were not first a problem with God's children on earth **in whom Christ dwells**. We do not need to march on Washington. Remember, we surround Washington; Washington does not surround us. Christians need to understand what the Apostle Paul pleaded for them to wake up and see:

Colossians 1:27 – "To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you**, the hope of glory."

And what Jesus said in **John 17:20-21** – "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, **as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me."

Why beg God down from heaven, when he presently lives in the heart of every believer by the indwelling Holy Spirit? This is the reason for the founding of Abiding Above Ministries...to get this message out far and wide...through the printed page, the airwaves of radio, and internet.

Jesus Christ has come. He has died for our sin and our self. He has risen and He lives right now in the heart of every true believer on earth. *This is the revival message!*

Thank you for praying for me as I preached back-to-back Men's Conferences at Lakeland First Baptist Church and First Baptist Church of Hickory Withe. God was gracious! We saw lives touched as these men saw themselves in Christ and surrendered to Him.

Please remember us in your year-end giving! We sure need you!

Merry Christmas,



Chris S. Hodges
President
Abiding Above Ministries
Colossians 3:1-3