

Destiny Newsletter

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HILLSBORO, KANSAS 67063 PHONE 620-947-2345 FAX 620-947-5560



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by
Dave Breese

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

There is, as we all know, a difference between a house and a home. A house is a shell whose stark and empty rooms testify to a former occupancy and a present vacancy. It is often the case that the room once echoed with the laughter of children, the fellowship of families, and even the singing of Easter hymns and Christmas carols. Those days are gone, the folks have moved and the house gets dusty from non-use.

A home is quite a different thing. The lights illuminate the hustle and the bustle of activity. A baby cries, the kids run in and out, the adults confer about important things, a broken window is quickly repaired and life goes on.

Yes, there is something about a home which is more than bricks and boards and stairways. It is the family that makes a house a home and this becomes possible because there is a lighted fire in the furnace or the fireplace. The home is warm and hospitable because someone put another log on the fire. That

*If the Son therefore shall
make you free, you shall
be free indeed.*

“THE KEEPERS OF THE FLAME”

someone could well be called the “keeper of the flame.”

A home is something like civilization itself. The world is not just numbered people who produce a statistic for the demographers. No, civilization is made what it is because it warms the hearts of its participants and encourages them with a constantly renewed vision of the future. There is within the life of the world some keepers of the flame. They are people who not only make life worth living, but they are the ones without whom the world could not survive. They bring sanity and sense to the irrational age in the midst of which we live. They shine like lights in the world. They hold forth the Word of Life in the midst of crooked and perverse nations where they live and serve. They are unimpressed with the world’s “solutions” but continue to hold high the burning torch of truth and reality.

Who are these people who make life possible in this world? The answer is that these people are the children of God.

These people are Christians!

Yes, while the world will not admit it, these people of God are the reason that mankind is still around. What is the nature of the influence that Christians have upon the external world? The answer should be obvious but it needs to be said again and again.

Christians are keepers of the flame of freedom. With a quick examination, we notice that the story of people is generally the story

of one group enslaving another. Often this comes in the form of the king, the emperor and his court, flogging a helpless citizen into obeying the dictates of the man in charge. One can look across the pagan world almost in vain to find a single nation whose people can call themselves free. The idea of individual freedom is part and parcel of “Christian civilization.”

What a contrast is Christian civilization! The flame of freedom has continued to burn in the great democracies because of the influence of the Bible and the knowledge of God. Freedom, a product of Christianity, has produced the amazing advances of science, technology, philosophy, and a thousand other things that have made this amazing entity called “Christian civilization” a remarkable thing. Strictly speaking, Christianity has produced the only civilization there is.

Christians are guardians of the flame of faith. What is behind the amazing vitality of Christianity? It is more than optimistic talk, clever economics or interesting theories. Rather, the engine behind Christian reality, is the message called “the Gospel of the grace of God.” To whatever measure the Bible has been preached and the message of grace emphasized, to that extent the culture has been changed. It is the faith of the Gospel that has done it. Yes, the Word of God with the testimony of Jesus Christ has already proved

itself to be the most life-changing, culture-preserving message on the face of the earth. Nothing can compare with it! The darkness of the Islamic lands, the thousands of gods of India and Asia have produced nothing like the results of the Gospel.

Christians are keepers of the flame of opportunity. One of the most wonderful promises made in all of history came when the eternal God spoke to the Church of our time, saying, *“Behold, I have set before you an open door, and no man can shut it”* (Rev. 3:8). For the Christian, different from many other views, this is a world of opportunity. “God has yet greater things for His people” is a slogan common to Christians. Believers in Christ often remind themselves, saying, “I can be something today that I wasn’t yesterday,” “With God’s help I will *‘mount up with wings as eagles.’*” One is not a Christian for long until he notices that the Bible is full of amazing promises of “something more,” “something beyond.” Because God works within both to will and to do of His good pleasure, the Christian never fails at divine optimism.

Something of the ebullient spirit of the Christian has percolated out into the world. Opportunity is one of the favorite words of the Christian. It does not apply in the same way to the world for whom the basis of life is tragic. Black despair is one of the common attitudes of the aging multitudes of our world who have never come to confidence in Christ.

We Christians are, therefore, justly proud of our wonderful Savior and enormously confident in the fact that He presides over the destinies of nations. Because of the message of Christ, there is something to live for, something

to hope for in this world of ours. Christians - the keepers of the flame - have continued to furnish the oil and the attention that makes the beacon of hope burn brightly in our world. The keepers of the flame invite you to become one of them.

Christians are keepers of the flame of truth. If ever there was a characteristic of our time, it is expressed in the word, “delusion.” When speaking of the rise of the Antichrist, the Scripture says, *“For this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie: That they all might be judged who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness”* (II Thess. 2:11,12). We are even told that *“Now the Spirit speaks expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of demons”* (I Tim. 4:1). We Christians are informed that Satan “was a liar from the beginning.” As his influence

grows toward the end of the age, we can expect that the “father of lies” will greatly heighten his activity. It is surely soon to come true that, as the poet said, *“Hold ’ere this truth before your eyes That all the world is lies and lies.”*

Yes, indeed, the truth about anything will become a very scarce commodity as we move toward the end of the age. The world will become lies, all lies.

While this fraudulent world will become very distressing, it will also make Christianity in our time a very strategic entity. People, desperately seeking the truth, will be able to find it in but one source, the Word of God. Therefore, we Christians, in holding forth the Word of life, will be the only real source of sense and sanity to a world that has become totally cynical. With the truth of Christ, we are free indeed.

Let no one therefore think that the labor of the believer is in vain. Every act done for Christ produces a just recompense of reward in eternity. Every prayer is presented as a substantial thing before the throne of God. Even though in this world so afflicted by spiritual myopia we may not see the immediate results of our efforts, these results are significant, substantial, and eternal. The recording angel puts them all down, and the rewarding hand of God will pour upon His servants one day the golden reward of eternity.

Remember also that, in the divine economy, a little becomes a lot. The servant rewarded by Jesus Christ was faithful “in a very little,” but as a result, was given authority over ten cities. There is no question about it--a little labor, a little prayer, a little faithfulness, a little trust when we might have doubted--this becomes a lot in the expanded vistas of eternity.

It is time, therefore, to look up, to look out, and to ask with enthusiasm anew the question, *“Lord, what will You have me to do?”* Then, doing what God has called us to do, we discover the truth that no one goes to war at his own charges but rather, is backed by the treasury of eternity. How marvelous to serve Christ now before we see Him then is His glory. Bright anticipation--that is the attitude! With that attitude, we must serve Him in this shadowy world and then we soon shall see Him in the shadowless presence of His eternal glory.

DB

THE TIDE OF OUR TIMES

“AMERICAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION says its sustained efforts to get public airwaves cleaned up is finally taking shape.

[...] The Federal Communications Commission announced it will fine Clear Channel radio stations in Florida a hefty sum of \$755,000 for broadcast indecency.[...]

In a press release, the FCC said it ‘found 26 apparent indecency violations that involved graphic and explicit [...] material, and were designed to pander to, titillate and shock listeners.’

AFA Chairman Don Wildmon credits members of OneMillionMoms.com and OneMillionDads.com for pressuring the FCC to begin rigid enforcement of indecency laws. ‘Our members have generated well over 1,750,000 e-mails to the FCC Commissioners, and their members of Congress,’ Wildmon said.[...]

‘Our message is clear,’ he says. ‘Do something to protect our children from out-of-control disc jockeys and their nasty broadcasts. Today’s action is a good first step.’”

American Family Assn.

We here in Christian Destiny are delighted to hear that MTV probably will not be producing any more Super Bowl half-time shows!

“DIVERSITY WRECKING BALL--Consider the direct assault made by the advocates of diversity on what we might call the base of the Western tradition [...] the family.[...]

‘In the name of the ancient Western principles of freedom and equality--principles traceable in the deepest and most important respect to the teaching of Genesis that man is made ‘in the image and likeness of God’--radical diversity denies the essential correlate to that teaching: ‘Male

and female He created them.’ In the rejection of that teaching, gender is reduced to the rank of a cultural construct, and as with the other constructs of culture construed by radical diversity, such differences all become a matter of accident, preference, and indifference.[...]

‘The difference between the sexes is no accident or matter of indifference. It is fundamental to the workings of human nature.’”

by Barry Bercier, First Things



“CZECH PRESIDENT VACLAV KLAUS said Europeans are living in a ‘dream world’ of welfare and long vacations and have yet to realize ‘they are not moving toward some sort of nirvana.’

The Czech Republic is a candidate for European Union membership, but Mr. Klaus[...] made clear in an interview his distaste for the organization.

However, he conceded [...] that ‘the political unification of Europe’ is now in ‘an accelerated process in all aspects.’[...]

Asked whether he could see the nation-state disappearing, Mr. Klaus replied [...]

‘We could see the scaffolding of a nation-state that

would retain a president and similar institutions, but with virtually zero influence.’ ‘That’s my forecast. And it’s not a reassuring vision of the future.’”

By Arnaud de Borchgrave
The Washington Times

**[R E T I R E D]
“GENERAL TOMMY FRANKS SAYS** that

if the United States is hit with a weapon of mass destruction [WMD] that inflicts large casualties, the Constitution will likely be discarded in favor of a

military form of government.” [...]

In an extensive interview in which he expressed worries and warnings about a WMD attack, Franks said that it may be such a catastrophe “that causes our population to question our own Constitution and to begin to militarize our country in order to avoid a repeat of another mass, casualty-producing event. Which in fact, then begins to unravel the fabric of our Constitution.”

[...] By John O. Edwards, Newsmax



We have snow!



Satan's Ten Most Believable Lies just off the press.

HOW SHALL I MEASURE THE MORNING?



How shall I measure the morning
 With the gloaming relaxing its hold,
 With the dew diamond-like on the roses,
 With the eastern sky glowing with gold,
 While the night freshened air moves in rivulets
 Bearing perfume from new-opened flowers?
 Ah, the dawn, fresh spring of renewal
 Re-endowing the soul with its powers!

But the morn is not only for beauty,
 It's a foretaste of opportune hours.
 It's a new day of cosmic adventure,
 A vision viewed but from the towers.
 It's eternal potential encapsuled
 In the fleeting moments of time,
 So the aspiring heart is enabled
 To accomplish a purpose sublime.

I shall measure the morn by its prospects,
 For more than the beauty it brings.
 It reopens before us the privilege
 Of serving the Lord of all things,
 For He fashions all of the mornings.
 He causes the new day to be,
 Then fills it with hope and with promise
 Which faith at the dawning can see!

But many shall rise in the morning
 To another day burdened with cares,
 For yesterday's pain is persistent
 While vanished seem yesterday's prayers.
 They feel themselves mocked by the morning,
 For soon comes the heat of the day,
 Then anon the inexorable dimness
 With life itself slipping away.

For them, the light is like darkness,
 The dawn an intrusion as well.
 The notion that God engines nature
 Is nonsense -- like heaven and hell.
 Faithless, they move through the shadows,
 Thinking not that last morn soon shall be,
 When the life of the world is foreshortened
 At the dawn of eternity.

Yes, there shall come a morning more lovely,
 More beautifully scented than these!
 It will be the morning celestial,
 When all of the prospects shall please.
 The light of that morn will be fadeless,
 When we wake on eternity's shore,
 With ne're-ending day now before us,
 With joys that shall be ever more!

by Dave Breese

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“Thank you for continuing to publish Dr. Breese’s poems and other writings. His writings are timeless. Appreciate your ministry.”
– Mound, MN

“Your January Newsletter’s article by Ed Hindson about ‘Jesus’ was so needed in today’s world. It restores our faith. Also, ‘The Bible Says’ November 2003 is wonderful in explanation.”
– Excelsior, MN

“I would like to request my free copy of the Dave Breese book listed on your web site page. I absolutely love your ministry and pray for you and your ministry and would also like for you to keep sending me the monthly newsletters and offers. Thank you and God bless.”
– Butler, PA

“I have personally been blessed with Dave’s vision and words of wisdom. Our first meeting was in Canfield, Ohio (near Youngstown) at Old North Baptist Church early in the 70’s. The many cassettes, books and other information received from Christian Destiny over these past 30 + years has been a valued support of my faith. Because of Dave’s dedication, I am confident of facing the future, regardless of what it holds. So I encourage you to keep on ‘keeping on’ and hope this finds you all in good health and with uplifted spirits. May God continue to bless you and your families in the coming years.”
– Mansfield, OH

“Thanks so much for your ministry. Pray it keeps going till our Lord returns. Thanks!” – Lowell, AR

“We truly appreciate your mailings. Thank you for using Dave’s material to continue to spread the Gospel. May the Lord continue to bless you. We enjoy your radio ministry on KRKS.” – Denver, CO

During the 15 years that Dave served as speaker on *The King Is Coming* telecast and President of *World Prophetic Ministry*, he provided answers to hundreds of biblical questions...answers that were printed in a publication called *The Bible Says*. This insert will be **included in the Destiny Bulletin which is sent to our supporters**. We thought you might enjoy Dave’s answers to frequently asked questions, along with the answers of Dr. Ed Hindson and others.



WORTH QUOTING

“A man’s true greatness lies in the consciousness of an honest purpose in life, founded on the just estimate of himself and everything else, on frequent self-examinations, and a steady obedience to the rule which he knows to be right, without troubling himself about what others may think or say, or whether they do or do not that which he thinks and says and does.”

– Marcus Aurelius

“The man without a purpose is like a ship without a rudder—a waif, a nothing, a no man. Have a purpose in life, and, having it, throw such strength of mind and muscle into your works as God has given you.”

– Thomas Carlyle

“In response to the question, ‘Do you feel that you have been forgiven?’ Martin Luther answered, ‘No, but I’m as sure as there’s a God in heaven. For feelings come and feelings go, and feelings are deceiving; my warranty is the Word of God—not else is worth believing. Though all my heart should feel condemned for want of some sweet token, there is One greater than my heart whose Word cannot be broken. I’ll trust in God’s unchanging Word till soul and body sever; for though all things shall pass away, His Word shall stand forever!’”

– Quoted by W. M. Czamanske

But especially,

“These things have I written to you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God” (I John 5:13).

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



Q. Since there will be no lasting peace in Israel until the return of Jesus Christ, why are we to pray for the peace of Jerusalem?

A. The command to pray for the peace of Jerusalem comes from among the Psalms: *“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love you”* (Ps. 122:6). There are several reasons for praying for the peace of Jerusalem, other than the obvious one, that the Bible commands us to. First, we must keep in mind the latter part of that verse: *“they shall prosper that love you.”* This goes hand-in-hand with God’s promise to Abraham: *“And I will bless them that bless you, and curse him that curses you: and in you shall all families of the earth be blessed”* (Genesis 12:3).

God loves the people of Israel, Jerusalem is the apple of His eye, and it goes far better for those who support Israel than for those who, like her Arab neighbors, would like Israel pushed into the sea. Although it is true that there will be wars in that part of the world until Christ returns, we should pray that at least the periods of peace which do occur might be extended and that warfare would be limited.

The current peace initiatives, however, are a bit frightening for those who are the friends of Israel. Israel is being urged by outside sources to trade “land for peace,” thus placing that tiny land in a more vulnerable position with regard to her neighbors. Such agreements may delay war for a

time, but will make it more severe when it does come. And we are told in the Bible that Israel faces at least two more wars before the return of Christ: the invasion from the north, involving Russia and her allies (Ezekiel 38-39), and the Battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16 & 19).

Israel was warned in the Old Testament to make no treaties with her neighbors (Exodus 23:32-33); (Deuteronomy 7:2-3). These warnings have never been rescinded, but unfortunately they have been ignored. In the future, Israel will make a near-fatal mistake when she makes a seven-year treaty with the Antichrist, who breaks that treaty in the middle of the Tribulation period (Dan. 9:26-27).

Finally, a prayer for the continual peace of Jerusalem is in reality a prayer for the triumphant return of Christ, something that we should all look forward to. The raptured and resurrected saints of the Church Age will be part of His army as we help to bring that lasting peace to Jerusalem.

Q. Will you please explain Matt. 7:22-23? With whom is the Lord talking? How does this tie in with some of the miracles we hear about today?

A. First, let us consider the Scripture: *“Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name? and in Your name have cast out devils? and in Your name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess to them, I never knew you: depart from Me, you that work iniquity”* (Matt. 7:22-23).

Note that the Lord is talking to His disciples (Matt.

5:1-2) about a special class of people. Matt. 7:21 defines these individuals as being unsaved, and who are going to challenge Christ concerning their right to enter heaven on the basis of their works which they have done -- including miracles. Then, verse 23 indicates that Jesus will refuse to accept them on the grounds that He never knew them in spite of their miracle-working.

“If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and gives you a sign or a wonder, And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spoke to you, saying, Let us go after other gods, which you have not known, and let us serve them; You shall not hearken to the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the Lord your God proveth you, to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul” (Deut. 13:1-3).

This passage teaches that some prophets could give a sign or perform a “wonder” (Hebrew for “miracle”). God warns that this might happen, and also that this prophet might tempt the people to depart from Jehovah worship. God warns that such a prophet is not to be listened to, and that he is to be put to death (Deut. 13:5) because he is “evil.”

In the New Testament, the Jews of Jesus’ day recognized that such was so, for they accused Him of doing His miraculous works by the power of the devil (Matt. 12:24). Paul warns that when the Antichrist makes his appearance, special “power and signs and lying wonders” (miracles) will characterize this man (*II Thess. 2:9*).

THINKING TOGETHER

THE MIND IS A BATTLEGROUND

A TEACHER HELPS TEENS UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF INFLUENCE

Thirst was getting the best of me after a long afternoon of shopping in a large discount store, and I was looking forward to putting my feet up while enjoying a soft drink in the store's snack bar. I dutifully gave \$ 1.07 to the rather sharp-looking sixteen-or-seventeen-year-old clerk, and the conversation went something like this:

"Can you imagine, every time I spend a dollar for a soft drink, the government gets seven cents?" I commented.

"What?" asked the boy, wearing a somewhat confused look.

"You know," I paused. "Taxes! We buy the drink, and seven cents goes to taxes. We pay for things like police protection, park maintenance, and new recreation centers," I explained.

A look of absolute shock preceded his only remark. "Oh, you mean that's how that all works?"

The teacher in me wanted desperately to sit down with the boy and give him a free lecture on rising taxes, the increase in social programs, and dependence on government. However, I refrained, sat down, sipped my drink, and contemplated the little phrase "Ignorance is bliss."

Bliss it may be, but in the perilous times in which we live, ignorance will damage the lives of young people. There is little hope for a Christian who doesn't know how to think Biblically in the twenty-first century.

I spend many hours a week in my car traveling from home to

the Christian school where I serve as a secondary teacher. Much of the material I use has been gathered from the radio—everything from National Public Radio to J. Vernon McGee on "Thru the Bible Radio." While driving the seventeen miles to school, I manage to scribble notes in the back of my checkbook or on old grocery lists. The biggest challenge, so far, has been an attempt to decipher what I had written on a tissue. By God's grace, and not my good sense, I have managed to stay alive, remain ticket free, and acquire a wealth of information and fresh understanding for use in class lectures.

The inspiration for a secondary elective course occurred while I was listening to the now-late Dr. Dave Breese from "Christian Destiny" read excerpts from his book *Seven Men Who Rule the World from the Grave* (Moody Press, 1990). I was so intrigued by what I was hearing that I took notes, skipped grocery shopping, and promised myself that I would buy the book.



I did buy the book, read it in a few days, and concluded that my students desperately needed to hear what Dr. Breese had to say. That inspiration eventually translated into a class offered at Community Christian School in Northglenn, Colorado. CCS, as it is known, is a ministry of Calvary Community Baptist Church under the ministry of Pastor Bernie Augsburg.

by Nannette Iatesta

Nannette teaches history at Community Christian School in Northglenn, CO

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In the book Dr. Breese presents some biographical information on seven famous men in world history, along with the essence of each person's philosophical ideology and the way in which his thoughts have substantially influenced how we think today—long after his death. The book is profound, passionate, yet practical—a perfect tool for today's Christian teens living in a world demanding answers that they do not always have.

Soon after I had the notion for an elective class, the school principal, Scott Bruns, made it a reality. Scott is not afraid to try new or unique techniques, and he encourages his staff to use every decent and legitimate means to get the message and material across. He has a great understanding of the times, and he realizes that even though a message may be timeless, the methods should fit the audience. An antiquated filmstrip or a dry-as-dust lecture won't get a teacher anywhere in the classroom no matter how relevant the message.

For the first two weeks of class, students contemplate the thought-provoking statements in the book's preface. The first paragraph comes as a revelation to many students:

The means by which one person is able to rule many others is a fascinating subject of study. Invariably, the explanation of such control is that it is a matter of the mind. Any ruler, no matter how numerous his weapons or great his wealth, must finally rule by other means. He must rule by persuasion, the ultimate weapon through which influence on a

culture is produced and sustained. The truly powerful leader must influence the minds of men.

Once the students grasp this concept, they realize that the mind truly is a battleground. Because today's children are growing up in a high-speed, media-driven world, they frequently see the flashy packaging on what is being hurled at them while failing to comprehend the history and sources behind the product. The wisdom of Almighty God through the writer Solomon has never been more apparent: "There is nothing new under the sun"; it is just warmed over or repackaged.

During the school year, we take a look at each of the seven men presented in the book and the primary effects of their ideologies: Charles Darwin—natural selection, Karl Marx—economic determinism, Julius Wellhausen—religious liberalism, Sigmund Freud—sexual revolution, John Dewey—social change, John Maynard Keynes—government investment, and Soren Kierkegaard—Christian existentialism.

Exposure to this material opens students' eyes to motivations behind things such as politicians' comments, newspapers articles about the age of the earth, churches practicing a social gospel, a nation obsessed with sex, and the celebration of Earth Day in public schools.

Classroom activities, homework, and field trips provide respite from the sometimes weighty and potentially boring philosophical jargon. To reinforce our study of socialism, we watch a cartoon version of *Animal Farm* and create clay sculptures of the characters in this powerful book.

A frequent homework assignment titled "Critical Reading" requires the students to do just that—read with discernment.

They are given articles by a nationally syndicated columnist and asked to determine exactly what the individual is saying, not what they themselves think of the piece. This is very hard for them at first, but in time they begin to comprehend the difference between fact and opinion and to develop an ability to get to the heart of an issue quickly.

Even fun has a purpose in the Seven Men class. Forgoing the usual M & M's, chips, and two-liter sodas, our hour parties are a bit more sophisticated. We play Risk and eat Turkish Delight! In order to sample high-culture entertainment, the class attended Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac* with a preshow supper at my home.

Hopefully these young people will be able to use the experience and knowledge gained from this class to better understand those to whom they communicate the gospel and to avoid the dangers and pitfalls of the mind so common in our postmodern culture.

Feedback from those taking the class has been both quick in coming and positive. A number of parents reported seeing in their children a new interest in national

and world affairs, as well as a willingness to discuss those subjects at home. One father said that at the dinner table his son gave a rather lengthy explanation of socialism, much to the surprise of those listening. In addition, students appear to be finding the course very practical. One college freshman wrote, "If it hadn't been for Seven Men, I wouldn't have understood the importance of Marx and German rationalism."

"I was able to hold intelligent conversations with unbelievers," said one eighteen-year-old girl soon after leaving for college.

"Seven Men was a great help in my philosophy of education class," reported another student in a Christian college.

"I'm prepared to handle the material given to me," said a boy attending a local state college.

Thanks to a man who devoted himself to making complex ideas accessible to ordinary people, we can learn to be "all things to all men" for the glory of God. J. Vernon McGee's Bible teaching method consisted of "putting the cookies on the bottom shelf," where they can be reached.

FINALLY



Dear Friend of Christian Destiny,

My heartfelt thanks to you for your continued support of the ministry of Christian Destiny. May heaven's best come upon you in this year to come and may God use us together to accomplish a great work for Him.

Most Sincerely,

Carol Breese
Christian Destiny, Inc.