

# CHIEF MINISTRIES

August 2010

To all the builders of the Kingdom,

When spiritual men look at you and begin to discern, what do they come up with? Yeah, yeah, I know we're to be God pleasers rather than man. But really, what do they see beyond that outer "I'm blessed and highly favored" Sunday morning church mouth that we have so quickly adapted to? I've been putting off writing this letter, but the Holy Spirit has been prompting me to "let em have it!" So, here goes. I love you men of God. You're called to be His warriors. We've all heard about the armor of God in Ephesians 6:11-18, but I want to concentrate on what comes before and after that. Verse 10 says to "*be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.*" Yet, so many of us will put on the armor of God while looking like David probably did when he put on the King's armor going up against Goliath. Like a baby putting on dad's boots and hat. We haven't been allowing God to really strengthen us. We've been running around talking the 'big game' and here comes the devil with a bag full of tricks and knocks us clean off our feet with his enticements, or maybe even his trickery of 'religiosity'. He tells us, 'yeah, put on that armor, you'll make it', and we go it alone and get crushed. Yes, David didn't need the King's armor, I understand that, but David's relationship was more than skin deep. His *heart* was after God's! Christ wants His heart in you! Because...Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. Matthew 12:34-37 says; <sup>34</sup>*"You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.* <sup>35</sup>*The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.* <sup>36</sup>*I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak,* <sup>37</sup>*for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."* (ESV)

Ever been a victim of character assassination? Jesus was. Who was it that did that? Oh yeah, those guys who had done every Bible study known to man, or that "doctorate of theology" degree-getter through the mail. the ones that had "arrived" at a place of perfection in their spiritual walk, and you "need to listen to them". Men who have looked around and found every flaw in the church body and condemned them already! They want to lead, but have never really followed. Matthew 15:14 says *if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into the ditch.* But don't worry men, v<sub>13</sub> lets you know what these accusers of the brethren can look forward to. On a side note, always read the before and after verses of sets of scripture I give as it will give you an even deeper understanding of what is being said.

Now please understand, I'm holding up a commissary mirror here. It's two-sided and the magnified side is on me! It's a bit scary to me, the longer I'm doing time, I'll meet good men in the body that have allowed themselves to get institutionalized in their way of thinking and they begin to direct those thoughts verbally, always tearing down the body. They say, "we've never done it that way before". These are the seven words of a dying church! Or "that guy hangs out with sinners", Jesus did. We want to change our environment without changing ourselves! We walk around with an institutionalized scowl rather than a saving smile. Trust me, for the religious, things will never measure up, and they'll continue to murmur and complain. But as for me and

my house, we will serve the Lord! I want to be out of the desert wilderness. I want to cross that Jordan! Are you with me? Christianized or Institutionalized! Every day you get to pick which one you'll be.

Exposure is coming to the house of the Lord! It's either get right or get left (behind)! Build one another up in the most holy faith. Verse 20 says *'for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak'*. Speak love, speak encouragement. There's such a freedom that comes with submission. I know on earthly terms that doesn't make sense, but Lord, open our eyes, the eyes of our hearts to see how we can change for the better, not betraying the kingdom of God but honoring. Pray for the change necessary in our own lives, but also the lives of leadership. I know of several prisons and chaplaincy departments that need a spiritual awakening. Pray men! Pray! It's coming! The last quarter of this year, expect your miracle, but also know that perilous times will come and there will be heavenly signs sent to awaken the sleeping souls. We have nothing to fear if our hearts are right! Resist the voices of distraction and discouragement that have infiltrated the church. Now I know none of us would ever admit to having created barriers against the move of God, but have we by our attitudes and limited expectations contributed to the lifelessness of the body of Christ? Remember where we are at. Prisons vary as does the body within the confined walls, but the One we worship does not! It's time to embrace the different faces, cultures, worship styles and other Biblically sound features that may be new to our way of thinking. We need to be unified in strengthening the church. Don't rebel against the leadership; don't grumble and complain. Don't look back! We need to allow God to purge us. We must recognize our issues and our need for change. Pointing a finger at the other guy and praying for God to change him skirts the issue and keeps us in bondage. The truth is God wants to change *us*. He wants unity, but unity comes at a price – it will cost us the right to have things our way all the time. Unity requires maturity. It happens through a process of purification which comes by fire. The heat is uncomfortable but it's the only way to bring impurities to the surface and eliminate them. If you're loyal to God, you'll endure the heat (and you won't write a grievance to cool things down). Loyalty and faithfulness lend to unity. Be a Barnabas. In Acts 11:23 *When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose*, Barnabas came to set things in order, but how? He witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and encouraged them all. The only demand he asked was obedience to God. Luke went on to say that...he was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord. Can that be said of you? Really ask yourself, men. Are you busy building up the kingdom of God or are you busy tearing it down? Be Kingdom builders my brothers! I pray you receive this in the spirit with which it was written, with humility and a passion to see men like ourselves be the warrior for the kingdom that we've been chosen to be. Out of love and concern for your spiritual well-being do I write these things. Peace be to all of you brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love uncorruptible.

Moving forward,

**Chief**

*If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part of this, please go to [www.chiefministries.com](http://www.chiefministries.com) coming soon [www.chiefshouse.org](http://www.chiefshouse.org)*

*Christ's*

*Heart*

*In*

*Every*

*Felon*