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Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2003 10:39 AM
To: Christian Fellowship
Cc: Sandra Reid
Subject: A dream, a bird, and God's Word

Greetings all in the Name that is **HIGHER** than any every other Name, the Name of **JESUS!**

The Lord gave me an interesting dream last Friday morning as I was waking up.

In the dream the Lord placed a large beautiful golden bowl before me. It was hemispherical, gleaming bright and golden inside, and at the bottom were a large number of small white pearls, completely covered with oil that I recognised was anointing oil.

I put my hand inside the bowl and drew out one of the pearls from under the oil. As I did so, a white mist-like dew surrounded me and I felt incredibly cooled and refreshed. It was like the dew of heaven falling around me, a truly wonderful feeling. As it evaporated and I could see clearly again, I looked at the pearl, and as I brought it close to me eyes, I saw the word "lower". As I looked the word faded, and then on the surface of the pearl, which grew larger as it was brought close to my eyes, I saw the white dove of the Holy Spirit become beautifully etched on the surface, wings outstretched as though about to land. It was more than a drawing...the outline of the dove was ridged on the pearl, like a stamped seal.

I took another pearl from the bowl and the process was again repeated, this time concerning the word "Crowned".

The third time I took a pearl and this time, after the refreshing mist had lifted, I saw not a word but a picture of Christ about to be slain. I was told to open the pearl and as I did, I saw Him slain. Then the dream faded as I woke up. I was a bit sad because I had wanted to check out every pearl.

I asked the Lord as I awoke concerning the meaning of the dream but did not receive any answer at the time, so got ready for work. I then pushed the dream to the back of my mind, but on Sunday morning at church the Lord gave understanding.

To begin with, when I got to church I remembered the dream because there

had been very light rain and it was exceptionally cool and fresh all around me as I got out of my car at Abundant Life Assembly. I remembered the feeling of the wonderful cooling mist of the dream that I had felt around me every time I had taken hold of a pearl.

Pastor Holmes Williams, pastor of People's Cathedral, a "father" of the Pentecostal movement in Barbados and a man of God, preached that morning as a guest pastor, and he was simply wonderful. His main text was Prov 6:22, where three reasons are given for knowing the Word - it leads as we walk, keeps as we sleep, and talks with us when we awake:

When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.

Pastor Williams spoke of the Word as being like a familiar friend, alive, talking with us, and encouraged us to not just let it remain in one spot, unread, from Sunday to Sunday, but to read it. He said it should be like a best friend to us, and in closing, He made us stand at the end of the message and hug it to our chest as we prayed.

Re my dream, my interest quickened when right at the beginning of his message Holmes described the reading of the Word of God as like receiving "dew or fresh rain from heaven". Then while he was in the middle of speaking, I felt the Holy Spirit nudge me to take my Bible and check the book of Hebrews re the word "lower", the first word in the dream. When I did, to my surprise and joy I found Heb 2:9:

*But we see **Jesus**, who was made a little **lower** than the angels for the suffering of death, **crowned** with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste **death** for every man.*

As I read the verse, I realised for the first time that the pearls in the dream had been based on that verse of scripture. Then I put all the clues from the Lord together and understood. The golden bowl was the Word of God. The pearls its truths. Each time we really get into the Word, it is like dew from heaven to our souls, bringing times of refreshing. Its promises are soaked with the anointing of God and sealed with the Holy Spirit. And it's all about Jesus, blessed be His Name.

On Sunday Pastor Williams also spoke of once watching a bird on a branch being blown about in a high wind but holding tenaciously onto the branch. He said how he had subsequently researched as to why a bird is able to hold on like that, and found that the claws of their feet develop a vice like grip on a branch when (and only when) their knees are bent. The spiritual parallel to this is that as we bend our knees in prayer and hold on fast to the Word of God, we will be able to withstand any storm or Isabella-like hurricane.

Hallelujah! Stay blessed, everyone! And check out the pearls daily of God's wonderful gift to us, His living, anointed, refreshing, Spirit-sealed Word!
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