

Cecil and Lisa Paxton Ministries

January 2023



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*Jesus said,
"Make your
light shine, so
others will see
the good you do
and will praise
your Father in
heaven."*

Matthew 5:16 (CEV)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Greetings to you all, our dear friends and partners!

2023 Traveling Ministry

In January, we will be ministering in California on 1/8 and at Charis Bible College in Woodland Park on 1/19 and 1/24.

In February, we are flying to minister in Hawaii where, back in 1988, we visited a YWAM ministry location.

At times, some humor has come from ministers about "suffering for Jesus" in Hawaii. In fact, there is a true story of a young minister who would send out newsletters for financial support in traveling to Third-World countries on mission trips. Then he was asked to come and minister in Hawaii. When he sent out the newsletters for financial support to go to Hawaii, no one gave him any!

Well, we have been asked by a pastor in Hawaii to come and hold healing meetings in his church. We believe that you, our partners and friends of this ministry, realize that no matter where we go to minister, it is always about Jesus. There are people who need ministry in Hawaii, the same as every other place.

As always when we travel, there is not only the cost of the trip itself—airline tickets, hotel, car rentals, etc.—but also the ministry office expenses. Our expenses for the February trip are currently at \$3,400.

We are also in preparation for traveling overseas in April and May, returning to Scotland and England.

To give toward these expenses, you can donate through our website, by phone, or through the mail:

- clpmi.org
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To all our partners and friends, we are grateful to you, as together God's purpose and calling are being fulfilled. I believe that in the future, in heaven, we will see all the fruit of the lives that were spiritually changed, with so many testimonies of the Lord's goodness.

Truck for the Colorado Ministry Office

Here at the ministry, we are believing for a used Toyota Tacoma or Tundra pickup truck. We have reached the point where we realize that having a truck would be beneficial—for transporting things that are beyond what a car can handle and for use in our traveling ministry. Thank you for believing with us as we are open for a donated truck or for the finances to purchase one. Presently, we have received \$8,572 toward this purchase, and we are very grateful to all of you who have given.

Devotional: The Lord's Return

As we head into this new year with so many changes taking place in our world, I would like to share a few experiences I have had with the Lord that I believe are relevant to the days that are before us.

In 1985, the Lord spoke to me about His return for over two weeks. He kept saying, "I am coming back soon."

This last year, I had another experience with the Lord about His return during which I saw Christians being instantly changed as they ascended up toward Him. What was revealed to me in this experience was the importance of our hearts being prepared for His return.

Luke 17:24 (NKJV) says, *"For as the lightning that flashes out of one part under heaven shines to the other part under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day."*

Matthew 24:36 tells us that no one knows the day or hour but the heavenly Father only. In Matthew 24:44, we are told to be ready for His

coming as it will be at an unexpected hour. An unexpected hour is the same as saying that one second, we are focused on what is happening right before us and then suddenly everything changes due to a supernatural experience with the Lord.

Because of what was shown to me through this last experience with the Lord, I believe that Lot's experience in Sodom and Gomorrah being destroyed (Genesis 19) can relate to our hearts being prepared for His return.

Even though the angels told Lot to hurry because of the immediate destruction, Lot, along with his wife and daughters, was reluctant to leave. The angels had to forcibly take them by the hands and remove them (Genesis 19:16). All their wealth and possessions, as well as Lot's married daughters, were being left behind.

With this sudden, unexpected occurrence upon them, they were not prepared to go, as there were so many issues within their hearts. I believe that one of these issues was within Lot's wife's heart—possibly the leaving behind of her two daughters. When destruction was raining down upon Sodom, this heart issue caused her to stop and turn around, resulting in her becoming a pillar of salt. Even though they were warned by the angels not to turn back or they would be destroyed, what was in her heart caused her to make a sudden decision that ended in her destruction.

Our hearts are what guide us in our choices, the decisions we make in life.

If you have someone whom you love and would be concerned about that would make your heart turn back when Jesus returns, then I would encourage you to resolve the issue within your heart in order to be free to follow Jesus.

Jesus referenced Lot while giving insight into His return. In Luke 17:31-32, Jesus said, *"In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are*

in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. Remember Lot's wife."

If the love of this world and for the things of the world (1 John 2:15-17) resides within our hearts, then the true love of our heavenly Father is not within our hearts, as our hearts are divided.

We always follow the direction of where our hearts take us. That's why Jesus went on to say in Luke 17:33, *"Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it."*

Jesus also spoke of the days of Noah to reference His return. In Genesis 6, we see God's

perspective of the earth revealed: *"God looked upon the world and saw how degenerate, debased, and vicious it was, for all humanity had corrupted their way upon the earth and lost their true direction"* (Genesis 6:12, AMPC).

If God had not intervened, His creation on the earth would have completely destroyed itself.

Genesis 6:11 (AMPC) speaks of the earth being depraved and putrid in God's sight. The land was filled with violence, desecration, infringement, outrage, assault, and lust for power.

Today, within our own country, we are seeing all of these descriptions being fulfilled, and I believe that it's happening around the world as well.

God loves and values His creation, but when the Lord said that the earth was depraved, He was saying that the earth was morally corrupt and wicked, with an indifference to human life.

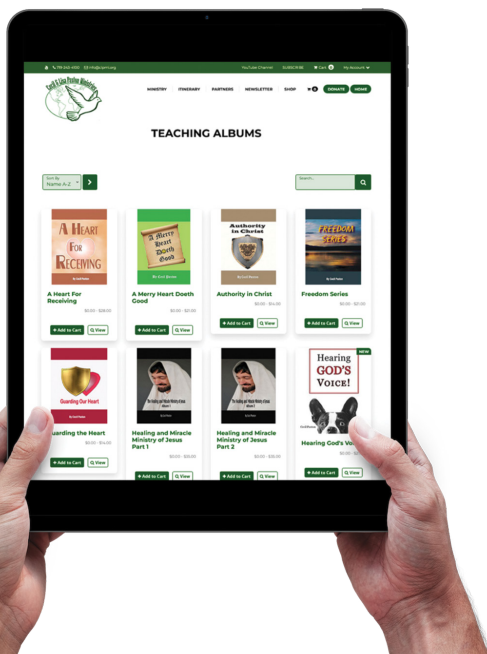
To God, "putrid" has the meaning of decaying or an extreme, unpleasant rotting smell. To help you understand this, let me share an experience I had where my spiritual senses were made alive by the Holy Spirit. The Lord allowed me to smell a human sin in a sexual stronghold that is being accepted in today's culture. The odor was extremely foul, and what I was smelling was a spirit behind the sexual sin.

It turned out that being given this spiritual experience resulted in me fulfilling the prayers of a sister for her brother trapped in this sin. The brother had no intention of going to a pastor whom the sister had arranged for him to see, so the Lord used me to minister to him. When I smelled the odor, I gently questioned him concerning his sin. This resulted in him believing that I was the pastor he was supposed to go see. This man rejected Jesus, but I was able to lead to the Lord another person in this sexual sin right before he died resulting in him going to heaven instead of hell.

Website Teachings

On our website—clpmi.org—you can download teachings for free, both audio teachings and books.

You can also purchase physical CDs, CD albums, and books. We believe that this will be a blessing to many people not just in the USA but also around the world.



In Matthew 5:16 (CEV), Jesus said, *“Make your light shine, so others will see the good you do and will praise your Father in heaven.”*

I believe that with so much darkness in the earth, many people are dealing with fear. Many have a fear of the future because there is so much uncertainty as the foundation of our culture is under attack. Because of this darkness, I believe that reaching people for Jesus has never been easier. People are looking for security and peace with a restored confidence. We don't have to argue or debate about Jesus with them; we just have to allow our light to shine.

Sharing a testimony of the goodness of God in our lives can result in a harvest of salvation or a seed being sown within hearts that the Holy Spirit can then use. Unbelievers need to see Jesus, the Prince of Peace, in a real, practical way.

Thank You!

Lisa and I are very grateful to you, our friends and partners of this ministry, as together we are seeing lives changed. We believe that you, our partners, are greatly prospering—spirit, soul, and body—as you experience increase in the seed you have sown multiplying and increase in the fruits of your righteousness. God's richest blessings in Christ are already yours. Believe and establish this truth in your hearts and have open hearts to receive all that God has given you in Christ Jesus.

Happy New Year!

Love and blessings,

Cecil + Lisa



YouTube

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