"[Israel's] prophets have daubed them with untempered morter, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, 'Thus saith the LORD GOD,' when the LORD hath not spoken. The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy: yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully. And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and STAND IN THE GAP before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none," Ezekiel 22:28-30.

Dear Fellow Servants of Jehovah,

My heart is grieving this morning. Our office is closed today, but I felt it necessary to come in and talk with you. I am finishing my reading of the prophet's writing of **Ezekiel**. Again, there have been a few things that have come alive to me during my reading. The LORD is faithful to reveal His Word to anyone seeking His Wisdom.

Years ago, the LORD changed His messages to me, and thus my monthly writings changed as He gave me His Words for the Church, the Body of Christ. When God called me back to Gospel Tract Society in 2013, it seemed to me that the ministry needed to be resurrected or buried. I didn't know which but was prepared to do either as I followed His leading and walked down the path that He put before me. I soon learned that He had more for this lay ministry to do, more souls to reach, more saints to encourage, and more churches to stir with His last day call to revival. Our first letters were more ministry news and needs. As God confirmed His call upon my life and the need for His Words to be published in Gospel Tracts, He began to draw me closer to Him and reveal some Truths in His Word, all to minister His message to His Church. As I have said so many times, it is not about me, my family, or this ministry, it is ALL about my Heavenly Father and His Son Jesus!

As I read Ezekiel 22:30 last week, my heart was gripped as Ezekiel spoke of the LORD and His desire to show His LOVE and Compassion to a nation (His people) that didn't give two hoots about Him or living in His commandments or following His statutes as He states, "I've searched the world for someone to stand in the gap, and make up a hedge of My Word to My people – yet I found NONE!" Now I understand why my Heavenly Father called me back to GTS. Now, I don't claim to be a preacher, a teacher, a learned man, a theologian in theology or doctrine. No, I'm just a vessel who has offered my heart to hear His Voice and follow His leading.

For me, Paul was spot on when he wrote, "For you see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to

confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in His presence," 1 Corinthians 1:26-29. Any bragging or boasting is bragging on the Grace of my Heavenly Father – PERIOD!

GTS is a very small ministry by the world's standards with only a handful of faithful staff members and a very limited budget sustained by the Love gifts and offerings of fellow saints of God, yet, God called this little non-denominational lay ministry to send "The Call to Arms" message [i.e., the Warfare Project] to every church in the United States of America. To "STAND IN THE GAP" of a dying Church and call them back to the Cross. Why us? Why not call a large denomination that has time, staff, resources, and a surplus of funds to call men to Him? The only answer that I can give you is that God spoke to me as I drove to the office one morning, and I had no choice but to listen and obey His mandate. Well, there was a choice, but the decision was made many years ago to follow, obey, go, and yield to His Holy Spirit.

This morning I read a sad note that we received yesterday. It read, "The Mountain Chapel Church has closed, therefore, we will not be sending anymore donations. God bless you." How sad, another church has died. Another community has lost the vision of God's Love. Another church has lost a shepherd's guiding hand. The nation has lost another Light of Hope and Truth. "I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none."

This is not the letter that I intended to write today, but seldom are they. Anything that is written is not meant to be critical or condemning, for they apply to me first, and you just get to listen to God speaking to me. There appears to be a theme here, God led me to speak of **chapter 3** of **Ezekiel** in our monthly order response letter, and speak of it again here.

We live in a world that puts everything into the political

arena, everything! Even when they are not political, they become politicized so they can choose sides and raise up strife and dissension in the government, the church, and the families. All to break down everything of value. But what has value? I would hope you would reply, "The things of God," or "The Word of the LORD."

The LORD revealed both the power of Ezekiel 3 and His mandate to GTS to mail His "Call To Arms" to the church leaders of the USA. His mandate was not just for them, but it is for every believer who calls Him LORD! We are ALL CALLED to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore <u>hear</u> the Word at My mouth, and give them warning from Me. When I say unto the wicked, 'Thou shalt surely die'; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. Again, when a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul," Ezekiel 3:17-21.

If you will, imagine with me that we are standing before Jesus as He is giving eternal rewards and judgements. And He asks you "Did you tell your son, daughter, spouse, neighbor, fellow saint, those at work, or anyone you know that is walking in unrighteousness about their sin and My Saving Grace?" And you have to answer, "NO LORD, I DID NOT." And Jesus replies, "Their Blood is on your hands. You are accountable for their eternal damnation!" However, if you can answer, "Yes Lord, I spread Your Gospel to those you led me to and to those I knew." Then Jesus would say, "Blessed are you for your faithful works, their blood is not on your hands, but theirs only."

It is just that serious. Life is short and soon we will stand with and before our Lord Jesus Christ. This is something that I take seriously, and am striving to be more faithful about. Listening to His Holy Spirit to know the time and words to proclaim His Gospel to others. Again, this is not about condemning anyone, it is about being faithful to our calling, again I say, "We are ALL called to be witnesses for His Kingdom."

I am reminded of the time that the LORD called my Dad to plant churches in Haiti. He was attending a Gospel convention in Jamaica, when a Haitian pastor asked him to visit Haiti before flying back to KC. Not knowing why, Dad agreed. After a whirlwind tour of the country, the

Haitian pastor and Dad were caught in the mountains at night with no lodging facilities near.

After moving the chickens from the chicken coop to their little hut, the local pastor gave them two grass mats. They settled down for the evening after placing the grass mats on the chicken poop covered ground. Dad said that at 2:00 AM he looked up to the moonless sky through the chicken wire roof and asked God, "LORD, why would you call me at age 60, to build churches in Haiti?" Dad said that in a very soft, gentle, and loving whisper, the LORD answered him, "Lester, it is because you listen to Me and obey My voice." And the deal was done, GTS was in the church planting ministry in Haiti. More than 60 churches were planted, most with schools, later, a Bible school, and an orphanage were added. The Blood of the Haitians are not on Dad's hands because he obeyed the Voice of the LORD. Who knows how many Haitian lives have been changed since 1964? Only God.

"Moreover [the LORD] said unto me, 'Son of man, all My Words that I shall speak unto thee <u>receive</u> in thine heart, and <u>hear</u> with thine ears. And <u>go</u>, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and <u>tell</u> them, 'Thus saith the LORD GOD'; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear," Ezekiel 3:10-11.

"Oh Father, call us, your Children, unto You. Renew our hearts in Your Word. Help us to feel Your burden for the lost and for our brothers and sisters who have grown cold and drifted away from Your Throne. Father, place within our hearts an urgency to serve You with all that we are, to proclaim Your Love and to walk in Your Power, proving that You are the Great I AM! Father, use us today to stand in the Gap for those, first, near death and then for those who don't know You or have drifted away from You that their blood will not be on our hands when we stand before Your Son. LORD God, show us what is displeasing to you in our daily lives, and help us to stand stronger against the distractions of this world. Father, draw us so close to you that you only need to whisper Your will into our ears and we WILL obey. In the mighty Name of Jesus Christ, Amen!

Your Covenant Brother and Servant of the Most High LORD,