



Dr. Jan McNutt, D. Min.

Living Out-side the Wall

(Part 1)

Here I am, sitting in the western region of Afghanistan. I'm not sure why I am here. Trust me, I am scratching my head and pondering what in the world was I thinking? I keep waiting for some profound insight...a divine revelation...an audible voice booming out a prophetic word. Instead, I find myself spending time searching my heart and praying.

The news articles are reporting more unrest here in the Middle East. The NATO troops and Pakistan fired on each other two weeks ago; stopping vital supplies from coming into Afghanistan. As if that wasn't enough, things are heating up in Syria. Iran, Turkey, Lebanon, Russia and many more are aggressively threatening Israel. Israel may be attacked any day now.

Again, what in the world was I thinking when I agreed to come to Afghanistan? The answer to this question may not come today, tomorrow, or any time soon. Only the Lord knows the "yet" to be revealed plan, but I believe there are many of us in the Body of Christ that are called to live in situations and places like this because of the call on lives. Not everyone is called to live in a war zone or third world country, but in these days ahead many will be challenged to make unexpected moves.

There are times when the Lord calls us to live outside our comfort zone (for me at the moment it happens to be a war zone). The comfort of the familiar is nice, but when we look at the lives of our Fathers of Faith; they were constantly being challenged to take the road of least comfort.

Abraham was one of our Fathers of Faith. The Lord told him to leave where he was and go where He told him to go.

Genesis 12:1 "Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you".

The Lord said, "Get out of your country.....".... get away from your family and your families family. Abraham was to go where? He did not know for sure, but he knew enough to obey the Lord. This move included a whole nation of people, livestock and possessions. It meant packing up everything and everybody. He did not take a vote, ask anyone's opinion or get permission from any man. He heard the word of the Lord and he moved on it. (Literally)!



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Abraham headed towards the promise land, but within him remained a knowing that it would only be a temporal place. He lived in tents, but his heart was fixed on an eternal dwelling place with his heavenly Father.

Hebrews 11:8-10

8: "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

9: By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise;

10: for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

What an example Abraham is to us. He shows us that we can do the same thing. No matter how deep our roots run or how strong our family ties may be; we must be willing to walk away from it all. Like Abraham, we must be willing to go wherever our Father leads.

Our path of faith must be flexible, courageous, and often daring. A lazy and complacent attitude will not fit into this place of living out-side of the walls of comfort and predictability. It is time for some of you to move out and dare to go where you have never been before. It may be a spiritual move or a literal move, but regardless of the "why" or "where" you go; be prepared to live out-side of the wall.

Part 2 coming soon!

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