

LIFE ABOVE THE CLOUDS

Two years ago, strapped securely into the economy section of my return flight from central California, I was struck with the brilliant beauty of the sun bursting through my small window as its radiance filled my heart with joy. Looking down, layered just beneath golden waves sat thick dark clouds whose tops were now snowy white. I marveled at the contrast between the two worlds. As I sat perched high above neighborhoods and cities, I reflected on what it's like to live beneath those clouds. Long, grey winters in Buffalo, NY have provided me plenty of experience with dull days. Now, I should clarify, not all winter days are dull but sometimes weather and moods connect for a strange collaboration.

To me, the parallels are striking. How often do we live weighed down by the clouds of despair, discouragement, disappointment, hopelessness, fear, worry, anxiety and the like? (I'll leave you to answer that on your own) For the Christian, the narratives of life are completely changed. Though the clouds above provide a formidable adversary, just beyond is a potent truth and beauty hard to see in some seasons, but active non-the-less.

We live in an hour where stories are intentionally spun to blur the lines between fact and fiction. Technology provides the power to blanket entire nations with the resulting maelstrom. Interestingly, the Bible speaks to this reality and this hour. *"Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down."* -Rev.12:10. John describes a time at the end of this age where the descriptive assault of satan and his demons can be categorized by one word -accusation. The language of the evil one is accusation rooted in a gross distortion of the truth. When wickedness increases the language of accusation increases. Its power spreads and grows correspondingly. Like a band of thick cloud-cover it seeks to deafen the bright light of God's truth.

As I watched from my seat, I knew that the sun always shines -intensely. It doesn't move, it just burns - heat and light are the result. Clouds have no power to change that. The power of clouds is seen as they try to convince those on the ground that the sun no longer shines. Once above the clouds, the truth is easily realized.

The enemy will always seek to distort God's truth -on every level. Pressing in for spiritual break-through involves a working knowledge of God's beauty, power and emotions -and His plan for the nations. We must take these truths and speak them, sing them, meditate on them and believe them. This is the way forward for the church in this hour. The power of the evil one cannot stand under the bright light of revelation. A people of revelation must release it under the anointing of the Spirit. This is called prophecy. Consider this. *"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."* -Rev.12:11

If accusation is the language of the kingdom of darkness at the end of this age, then anointed truth is the weapon in the mouths of overcomers.