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From Pastor Jim's Desk

July 2020

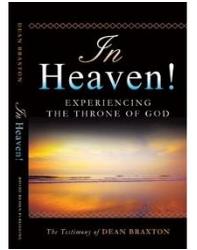
Dear Freedom House Friends,

Praise His Name! Summer is here and the campus activity is in full swing, at least as much as the current phase which the Washington governor will allow. The Covid 19 safety procedures continue and I am grateful to share that all is well with each of our staff, students and their families. Thank you all for your prayers and care sown into these men. The Lord loves broken lives turning towards Him, coming home to spiritual realities and then growing in faith. Our mutual faith (yours and ours) continues to bear fruit.



We enjoyed a graduation service for Chris as he completed his year here and his family and guests who attended enjoyed some decent weather which enabled us to hold the service outside. Chris is doing well and is preparing for a new job which he is starting. Congrats Chris, keep on walking close to the Savior. PTL! You have so much ahead of you!

In mentioning an outside event, let me share a fast approaching coming event and you're invite... my good friend *Dean Braxton* will be with us for a midweek service on the lawn here at Freedom House Ministries. The date will soon be upon us, **July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm.** You may recall that Dean passed away in a Tacoma Hospital and was *in Heaven*. He was sent back and shares his incredible experience of Heaven to folks all over the country as well as abroad. It will be a truly unforgettable evening in a *socially distanced* setting for those who #1: You must call and RSVP to reserve a seat... and #2: please bring your own mask. BYOM. (HA!) Often we enjoy a question and answer session with Dean that is also open to attendees. So bring your questions!

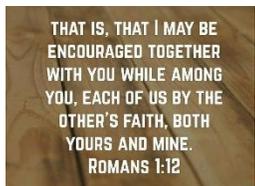


Our students are in the final touches of painting the Ministry Center and then we will be moving on to our brown buildings on campus. The weather has been cool and damp over the last several weeks so it's been slow going. We are trusting that this new month will include the warm summer weather we need and we will be able to make more progress.



This month I will enjoy my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday! What a milestone. When I gave my heart to Jesus in 1970, I never thought I would see this event in my life. How I thank the Lord for His wondrous grace over the years! As I have been challenged recently with this tumor behind the eye and prostate cancer issues, let me give an encouraging report in that recently I do believe that my eyesight is getting a bit better and the double vision is not as extreme as it has been over the past several months. Thank you Jesus! Your continuing prayers and encouragement strengthen my heart and my resolve as they bless and benefit both my family and me. You are all loved and I am, both deeply affirmed and so very grateful.

I am back on campus now teaching chapel studies which have been focused on the significant and intense book of the prophet Ezekiel. With all that is going on in our culture, our economy and our spiritual challenges... this book truly speaks volumes



about getting ready for His justice and preparing people for the times ahead. There is much to learn about the personality of our Heavenly, righteous Father, especially as it pertains to dealing with rebellion and disobedience. As well, we learn of His longsuffering, promises and mercy to those who stay focused, walk in obedience and endure.



Ezekiel, when 30 years old, along with his wife were carried away in the second wave of captivity (597 BC), forced to travel on foot from Jerusalem close to 1,675 miles into the depths of slavery with their captors in Babylon. Ezekiel stayed faithful to the call of God while in captivity and he received and then proclaimed God-given messages that applied to his fellow Hebrew captives in Babylon. As well he sent warnings to those remaining few, who were back there rebelling against Jeremiah's word; even while caught in their final days, locked down, and facing the siege of Jerusalem before 70 years of captivity and the total destruction of their capitol city. It is a serious read and these brothers are growing daily.

As I close, please remember that none of this would be possible without our mutual faith and efforts serving these brothers. Thank you once again for being such a partner in this work.

To God be the Glory!

Pastor Jim

Pastor Jim and Geri Cottrell

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