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## Why Be Bothered

Why be bothered doing this? I am well aware of the fact that he who promotes himself loses out in the Lord now and in Heaven. It is a dangerous path; the one that you hope gives you your 15 minutes of fame. Anyway, there is nothing to brag about in my life. When anything good comes out of me it is the result of being with the better man, Jesus. It's like when the woman was caught in adultery and Jesus said, "let the one without sin cast the first stone." The oldest dropped the stones first then the younger. I guess there was more sin in the older. It makes sense. The older you are the more you realize you have done wrong even when you thought you were good. I have a very large rubble of dropped stones around me. Well, at least they are on the ground and not still inside me.

If this is supposed to be a bio then I am sorry to disappoint you. I think it is good for you to get to know me and me you; I am not going to start it with a list of accomplishments. I will say this; I have done a few things that were helpful, but if you weigh these in contrast with my failures, well, it makes me not want to go that way. I'm just glad I'm saved. Someone said "eat the fish and spit out the bones." I hope this ministry gives you more fish than bone." Feel free to separate what you see as bones. My floor is full of other people's fish bones. Yet, I have picked some of those old bones back up and found that it was pretty good fish I trashed. I would ask for that consideration too. Let's not chuck the results of each other's journey too fast. We pay for every word of wisdom. If we have true wisdom it has cost us everything and keeps on costing. Can we respect each other? There will be times when we won't agree. This is the test, will we stay friends? There are enough Family members crucifying each other on the internet. May we in this ministry contribute with the many others who want an end to the medieval type war that tears the wedding gown of the Bride of Christ to shreds. May we focus the Eternal Dove and break free, instead of showing all our dirty laundry to a world ready to receive Godly sensibility, let us put our hearts together and give them the gospel of good news.

I still have not answered the question, why be bothered? First I know it is what I should do, but that reason is not enough. In 1985, I was in the Dachau concentration camp in Germany. A major betrayal had taken place in my life and it was eating me up, literally destroying me from the inside out. If I was once the man I used to be, I don't want to

think of what I would have done. But here I was, a Christian, battling with the emotion of hate and vengeance, yet forbidden to take action. If God had not proven Himself to me there would have been a different outcome. Good over comes evil. Light dispels darkness. Love your enemies and bless them. Crap! No way out but to give it up. I put my hands into the ovens where hatred exterminated humanity; grandfathers and grandmothers, moms and dads, children of all ages, like vermin. I was challenged gently yet profoundly to not emanate my hatred into this world and add my discord where retribution is an accepted response. An eye for an eye isn't that what they say? God made a deal with me on His journey into the furnace of my hurt and anger raging in my heart. If I would forgive, He would have a special relationship with me that would be greater than anything this world could throw at me. Even though I would still cause some of my own problems, He would keep His part of the bargain. If I would give in to mercy He would have wonderful mercy on me. I made the trade. Life has thrown an awful lot of stuff my way and I am still here. I have made mistakes, I am still standing. He is offering you this same deal. How about it? Want to make the trade? Be afraid of what the evil of unforgiveness can do. All of us are capable of atrocity in one degree or another. So the heart message of this ministry is to forgive and be forgiven. Let's go for it, let's give it all up! There is a better life. I will be praying for you.

There is great reward in forgiving and being forgiven. This is another reason for "stepping out in this ministry." I was shown something before I was saved. This is the short version. I was in intensive study to become a spiritualist medium. After running into an old drug friend who had given his life to Jesus, I was perplexed. I had the reality of communing with spirits but he had a changed heart. I tried to rob him of it but couldn't. We had powerful séances. People from England commented on the power and clarity they experienced in our meetings." Just like the old country," was said by some of these master occultist. There were about 40 of us. Many of us were young people, hippy type. In a séance that was particularly active I told my spirit guides that if they loved me they would understand what I was about to do. I said I wanted a clear line to God and if he was there I wanted to talk to the Jesus my friend said he knew. At this time the séance went out of control. People were thrown on the floor screaming. The panicked elders had said the spirit gate keepers on the other side allowed bad spirits to come into the meeting. I felt no fear. I found myself in an invisible bubble. I no longer knew what was going on in the room. I was carried by a shaft of light to a place where I saw grandparents, moms and dads, children of all ages standing in a circle. There was such a sweet presence and a wonderful light came from above. The word "tranquility" came forth from their midst. It was like I saw utopia. No stress, no mind games no one greater than another. Just love. I left the meeting never to be the same again. One year later I said to God "I believe, but you'll have to help my unbelief". At this point I became what was called a Jesus freak. This vision has been my litmus test for church and leadership. The highest call on this ministry and those who will walk with us is to see Gods family established here on earth, in His church, permanently. God puts the lonely into families.

Peace, Dan