



# Take His Heart to the World Ministries

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**God-Given Information to Move the Church from Spotted to Spotlessness - Harlot to Bride!**

(Free warfare booklet, 1997)

## **THE EXTREMES OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE**

**...the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.**

**Paul Said!**

**My little children, of whom I **travail in birth** again until Christ be formed in you,**

### **Introduction**

*And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but ye tarry in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. Luke 24:49*

Jesus said we would receive **power from on high** by the Holy Spirit. We must learn to release the power of the Holy Spirit who resides in us. **It is the Holy Spirit** who performs, or brings to pass, God's will.

*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. **And the Spirit of God moved** upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. Genesis 1:1-3 KJV*

**Both the Spirit and God's Word were necessary to bring about God's will.**

*And when he had said this, he **breathed** on them, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost**: John 20:22 KJV*

Through this written witness, we will see that Jesus is talking about more than just "the power to witness." It's also the power or ability of the Holy Spirit, Himself!

### **Headings:**

#### **Judging**

**Looking at Jacob's spiritual warfare.**

**Travail in birth.**

**My deliverance.**

**Travail in the natural.**

**Travail in the Spirit.**

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## The Extremes of Spiritual Warfare

I'm writing this at the instruction of the Lord, knowing that there has been a lot of "judging " going on among His people concerning spiritual matters. Mankind has a habit of making judgments without being taught or having all the facts. It is my intent to share the understanding I have gained, through experience, of the extremes of spiritual warfare.

The Lord has been showing me churches who think they know about spiritual things, but don't. We see a picture of this same thought from the Lord's own mouth in Revelation 2:24 KJV. He is speaking to the church at Thyatira where the people weren't aware of a false prophetess among them and the Lord includes this in His statement,

...and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak....

These people said they knew the depths of Satan but the Lord revealed they didn't. The Lord was simply showing me this same problem (which is the lack of knowledge about spiritual things) exists in the church world today. Just as in the church at Thyatira, the existence of false prophets who fortune-tell by the spirit of Python (familiar spirit) is extremely evident in the church today, and it goes unrecognized because of the lack of discernment and knowledge. These false prophets simply don't fit the picture presented by God's word. I'm boldly writing these things so you can see that God has been personally dealing with me through the years about spiritual things. I fully understand that Satan has a counterfeit for everything. As far as this writing goes, it is an attempt to reveal something that is sometimes perceived as being of Satan or evil but in reality, it is of God. It has to do with spiritual warfare, agonizing in prayer; **it's called travail. Paul did it! Jesus did it when He sweat drops of blood before His crucifixion!**

### Judging

It is my hope that this section will help all of us to become more teachable. After all, if we think we know all about a subject, we are unteachable. The only things that seem to break unteachability are testimony or a calamity. I prefer testimony, don't you?

The Lord spoke to me about judging and I share this so we can see the seriousness of judging things we haven't been taught or experienced ourselves.

In our natural life we make judgements (decisions). You're beginning to make a judgement on what this writing says. What is important is, **what do we base our judgements on?** How much evidence do we, personally, really have? So many times we judge by the appearance, without the truth revealed by the Spirit of God. Jesus said,

*John 7:24*

*Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgement.*

To help understand righteous judgements, I share the following experience with the Lord. The Lord asked me,

*If a man receives, by the spirit of God, a word of knowledge and a word of wisdom, and it is revealed that there is a problem with another person, is that the judgement of the man or the judgement of God?*

I knew it was the judgement of God. The Lord went on,

*If this same man starts to see the same problem in those around him, is that the judgement of the man or the judgement of God?*

The answer was obvious, so I asked, **"Then what is judging?"** The Lord's answer,

*If a judge sitting on a bench does not have all the evidence and makes a judgement, he has "judged." If a judge sitting on a bench has all of the evidence and makes a judgement, he has made a sound decision and not a judgement.*

If you have all the evidence, you are not judging but making sound decisions. I've found that I really don't know much **unless the Lord has taught me about it**. We can see how easy it is for God to make righteous judgements, as He knows everything. What does God say?

*Jeremiah 23:22 KJV*

*But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.*

**Standing in His counsel** is the key element required to make sound judgements and be truly successful in anything. We must have our minds retrained to think spiritually and learn spiritual things because we all come from carnal minds. Experience is a great teacher but without the Lord's input we sometimes read things wrong, because of our lack of understanding of spiritual things.

I'm reminded of a person I knew who was in jail. A Satanist had put a spell on his cell mate and said he wouldn't be able to sleep. Far out? No, words are powerful. They are spirit and in the spirit realm exists both good and evil forces. Well, this person I knew received a prayer cloth from a ministry. Being in a cell with a man who couldn't sleep, what would you do? He gave the cloth to the man and instructed him to put it under his pillow. Things started to happen. When he called me, he told me the story and that they had prayed for the man to have a good night's sleep. He said that instead of a good night's sleep, the man was up on his hands and knees, growling like an animal. He said, "God didn't answer our prayer." He wanted to know why? I explained that for the man to really have a good night's sleep he would need to be delivered from those things hindering him. God could give him a good night's sleep but for it to be **real** and lasting, deliverance would have to take place.

From this incident we can see that spirits can and do manifest in the physical because of the presence of God's anointing. There was warfare going on in the spirit realm because of the prayer cloth. The prayer cloth made the difference. We also see that sometimes when we pray for something, **we have no idea what all must occur for God to truly answer our prayers**. If we are ignorant of spiritual matters, we think something is going awry when it really isn't.

### **Looking at Jacob's spiritual warfare.**

*Genesis 32:24-28 KJV*

*And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.*

Where did Jacob prevail? In the Spirit. He changed something. His name change from Jacob to Israel was just as important as God changing Abram's name to Abraham. It had an eternal and lasting effect. It changed the future. Jacob moved the kingdom of God by using force in the spirit realm.

It is obvious that the angel dislocated Jacob's joint to cause pain and difficulty in wrestling. If you had been standing there, you would have seen Jacob wrestling with something you couldn't see. Had one judged what was going on, by the appearance, one would have said Jacob had gone crazy. But if one had all the evidence, understood all that was happening, that it was spiritual warfare, one would make a righteous judgement. Jacob hadn't gone crazy. Was this spiritual warfare? Did it have a good result and a lasting effect? The answer is, "Yes," and we see that Jacob experienced **pain in the physical** from wrestling in the spirit realm, to get what he wanted. There was pressure applied in a specific place in the hollow of his thigh, to cause his thigh to become dislocated. We also see that Jacob wrestled for quite some time, to prevail. It

wasn't a "pie in the sky, snap your fingers" situation, because, " The kingdom of God is taken by force."

To start to get the right picture here, we must also include the fact that God had already ordained what was to happen to Jacob, before this incident.

*Genesis 28:15 KJV*

*And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.*

In the natural, God showed Israel the promised land, representing the kingdom of God or Israel's given kingdom. They had to literally take it by force, by coming against those who already possessed it. It was war. God was simply saying that the wrong people are in control of this land, take it.

Can't you see the leaders of Israel standing at the border, saying to those in possession of the land, "Now, our God said your land is ours, so, 'shoo,' go away, 'shoo.' Go on now, if you don't we'll have to get rough with you. Go on, 'shoo.' We're speaking to you in the name of our God. We are His liaisons and His name is above your god's name, so 'shoo,' go on, 'shoo'." Pretty soon you would see the leaders still standing at the border, crying to God, saying, "Lord, they won't go away. We told them to go, that You said for them to, so why God, why? You said the land was ours!"

God told *Take His Heart Ministry* some years ago that we were in a war whether we believed it or not. You are too! It's a war and the enemy doesn't give up easily.

### **Travail in birth**

In the New Testament, Paul spoke of "travail in birth."

*Galatians 4:19 KJV*

*My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,*

Travail in this scripture, according to Strongs, is this, **to experience the pains of parturition (lit. or fig.): - travail in (birth).**

Parturition is the act of giving birth. So if we insert the meaning of travail into Paul's statement, we have this,

**My little children, of whom I'm experiencing the pains of birth again until Christ be formed in you,**

Paul was not talking about pain in "thought" but he was experiencing pain in the physical, from a spiritual source. When God first started to introduce me to what Paul was talking about, "travail for someone else," He gave me a dream in the night. I dreamed I was going to have a baby, as a man. Being carnally minded, I thought this was absurd. So the Lord then showed me a person who was both male and female. This didn't help my understanding right then because, I thought the Bible said that there is neither male nor female in Christ Jesus.

*Galatians 3:25-29 KJV*

*But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

What is really being said here is that once you are a child of God, by faith in Christ, you are no longer separated by nationality or sex. You are not separated by one being bond or one being free. You are in Christ, you are Christ's, in one body (the church), and everything He has is yours, as a body, because you are the heir!

Jesus had the fullness of the Holy Spirit. If we are baptized in the Holy Spirit, we have **the potential of letting** Him do anything He pleases through us, according to His will. We don't have to let Him do what He wants. We must be willing.

If you are baptized in the Holy Spirit, you have both male and female in you. The Holy Spirit is a "He" but when creation was taking place, the Holy Spirit - the Breath of God hovered over the waters as an incubator, so to speak, and was female in nature. He brought to pass the "Word" of God.

I've heard testimony of people agonizing on the floors of hotels, before the start of large meetings. Miraculous things come about in these meetings when this is allowed to happen. The agonizing they speak of is travail, as in childbirth, the very thing Paul talked about, "travail ...until Christ be formed in you."

It has taken years of experiences for me to start to understand spiritual travail. Understand the fact that I could spiritually have a baby. Understand that I could travail in birth again for you until Christ be formed in you, just like Paul. Understand that through intercession and travail (giving birth) something will come to pass that will never come to pass any other way.

Soon after the Lord had showed me these things, I started to experience what the following scriptures paint as a picture, or illustrate.

*Romans 8:26,27 KJV*

*Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*

In prayer, my stomach would tighten and there would be a pushing, a pressure, with extreme tightening of the muscles, like a woman giving birth. All I could do was groan within myself when this event took place. This would happen, over and over, just like a woman having a baby. Sometimes it would be severe and sometimes not so severe. More than once in my life I've had enough pressure build that I thought the vein in my neck would burst.

No one can make Spiritual travail happen; it is introduced at the will of the Holy Spirit because, **the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.** The Spirit of God is interceding, **not us!** It is the Spirit of God bringing life to God's will, what has already been ordained, or spoken by God.

Through the years, I have experienced travail (groanings from the tightening of the muscles) coming on me not only in prayer meetings but also at odd times and places, such as before and during church meetings, on the streets, and during conversations with people. I have travailed for other people, and seen them delivered from major spirits. I believe I've travailed for myself. I've been with other intercessors and the Holy Spirit would move the travail around among the intercessors, to let each have a rest. I rarely know what I'm travailing about. This fits, **for we know not what we should pray for as we ought.**

I've seen the fruit of travail, when used with the name of Jesus! I've seen the fruit of using Jesus' name without travail! I have seen the name of Jesus used without travail, with no results! I site my own deliverance from the spirit of fear.

Some years ago I had the spirit of fear. It controlled me and would rise up whenever it wanted to. My wife and I had discussed the fact that I had it. Fear of failure was what was revealed later, as I was going through my deliverance. This was understandable as I felt that I had failed in every thing I had tried to accomplish in this life. The devil uses real facts so you'll accept what he's putting on you.

### **My deliverance.**

There came a time in my life when we were attending a church where they believed in deliverance. My wife and I attended a prayer meeting especially for us. When they prayed for me it was revealed that I had a spirit of fear. It was no surprise to me so I agreed that I wanted rid of

it. All those in the room were in agreement and the spirit of fear was cast out, in the name of Jesus, along with some other things. The prayer was intense, as far as I knew intense to be at that point in my life. There was no change in me as far as I could tell but I gave God the benefit of the doubt. No travail here.

Some time passed and God moved us to another church, which believed in deliverance also, but they seemed to know more about spiritual things. I knew God had led me there, so I was open to learning what He wanted me to learn, even though my carnal mind would sometimes say, "Let me out of here!" I was learning a lot more than I realized at the time, through demonstration. Finally one night at a prayer meeting, a lady standing beside me backhanded me in the stomach and said, "Come out in the name of Jesus!" not naming what it was. She had obeyed the Lord, not knowing what it was.

Some three months later I became sick at a prayer meeting. I had tremendous pain in my mid-section and wanted to be in a curled-up position to relieve the pain. I was ready to go to the hospital but the pastor said it was deliverance. These people were surprised that it had taken so long, referring back to the backhand in the stomach, in the name of Jesus. Don't forget, this all started with the name of Jesus, and action.

I decided to trust these people and obeyed their directions. I found myself on my side on the floor, as it was the only position I could stand. They started praying and soon the prayer became loud. It was warlike prayer in the spirit, with authority. One lady in the group soon knew exactly where the spirit was lodged, in my liver area. Some people in the room were in travail and others were just praying in the spirit. This was also the approximate time that they came to know they were dealing with the "fear of failure."

The lady, who knew where the spirit was, placed her hands over my liver area where this tremendous pain and knot, or lump was occurring. She then pushed upwards, speaking in the spirit, in a commanding voice, and I felt this big lump inside of me move upward. "Whoa, this is real!" She knew it had moved and continued pushing to get it to move more, commanding in the name of Jesus and speaking warlike in the spirit. At times it would not move and then **the travail** and the warlike tongues would increase. I started to ache all through my body. I soon knew or understood that the spirit was well entrenched in the muscles of my body, clear out to my finger tips. This big lump was being moved up my throat and I began spitting up phlegm. There was also evidence that I had started to bleed. They realized the spirit was tearing me and commanded it to stop. It did, and through much agonizing, and with the name of Jesus, the deliverance was completed. The spirit had been totally entrenched in the flesh of my body. The next morning I awoke to a new world. No, it was the same world; it was me who was different. **Fear was gone, I had been set free.** The "what if's" weren't controlling me any more. My body still ached from the reality of being torn but that would heal. I was advised to rest for three days, eating lightly and filling my spirit with Christian praise and worship and the Word of God.

Looking back at this experience, I understand some more of what Paul meant when he said, "...I **travail in birth** again until Christ be formed in you." Jesus had no fear in Him, so if Christ be formed in me, fear had to go!

I give glory to the One who sent the Holy Spirit, Whose works are beyond our imaginations. As you can see I've been on both ends of travail. I've learned through the years that if we will yield to the travail that comes up in us, about something or someone, there is always a change, a good result, fruit. **Travail brings life! It's the Holy Spirit doing it, not us!**

I could give example after example of travail being the key factor in major deliverance. I've been to churches when travail would come up in me for the meeting or for the church, and God didn't have me say anything. Was something going on? Yes, a battle in the spirit world. When the Lord started dealing with me about writing this He showed me in the night that Christians are slaughtering, not only their own people but "**knowledge**." These are well-meaning Christians who come against, and in some cases shut down, the clapping of hands, marching, shouts of joy, the stomping of feet, and especially travail, believing it is of the devil. The Lord made me realize that they don't recognize that they are coming against the very things that set themselves and others free. And yes, these things can happen and be of the flesh but we must



remember, **the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty to the pulling down of strongholds at the direction of the Holy Spirit.**

Well, the spirit of fear had a stronghold in me. Thank God for travail! I know that's not the fullness of what "strongholds" mean but nevertheless, it is part of the picture. Have you perished in some way, or lack something because of the lack of knowledge concerning travail? God says that we perish for the lack of knowledge. It's possible that the very thing you've been praying for, for years, hasn't happened because of the lack of travail.

Some people brought a person to one of our meetings so several of us wound up praying for this particular person. We had no information but knew this person was heavy with a burden, beaten down in some way. I know the prayers of everyone were important but travail came up in me when I was praying for her. When it was all over, the only thing I knew for sure was that **something would change**. I felt there was something she needed to release. After the meeting we felt totally inadequate because no one had a word of any type for her or her situation. Some time passed and finally we got a report concerning this woman. Her husband, who was the son of a preacher, and an alcoholic, among other things, whom she had prayed for many times, suddenly threw away the alcohol, accepted Christ, and completely changed his life. They gave examples of the extreme changes in his life. **Years of praying** hadn't produced any significant changes in his life. Then travail entered the picture. You say coincidence? I say deliverance, super-natural deliverance, by God, Himself. He gets the credit, we didn't even know what was going on.

We should understand that the devil has a counterfeit for everything. Counterfeit salvation, counterfeit righteousness, counterfeit faith and a counterfeit of what is being discussed here. You name it and he has a counterfeit. He uses fear to stop the investigation of the doctrines of men. "I better not read this or that because there might be something in it that might deceive me, confuse me, mislead me, etc." FEAR! I was delivered from fear. I know it's much bigger than most Christians think.

I encountered the devil in 1980. I heard him speak to God, and I'm here to tell you **he's a lot more masterful at deceiving than you may think**. He'll give up territory easily, in some places and some cases, so one doesn't realize where the real war and deceptions are. He wants you to run along side of the pure truth so you won't realize that you're not in it. He's not too concerned about "pie in the sky" warfare because he knows to let go of the lesser things to make us feel successful and not realize the many times we aren't. Jesus said to count the cost. Really deep foundational changes cost something. We come from a "pie in the sky," instant society. We roll up to McDonald's, speak, and receive what we want, in minutes.

### **Another picture:**

Remember the example of the leaders of Israel, standing at the border, demanding the possessors of the promised land to leave? Satan is no dummy, so he and his possessors of the land use a scheme of giving up a 100 acres, along with a little battle, and "poof!" they've made the Christians think, "Lord we won! We got the victory! We have a place to live. We're satisfied. Thank you Lord." They are forgetting the real mandate from God. The enemy then moves back in, stealing the land back because he was not completely ejected from the land by God. (A spirit will pull back, letting you think it has left.)

Is everyone in the body of Christ called to pray? Yes! Is everyone an intercessor? No! No more than everyone is a prophet, or an evangelist, or a preacher, etc. We in the church need to let the different parts of the body perform in their function, as given at the will of God. None of us can change what we are called to do, like it or not. Find where you belong, God's function for you, and work with the other parts of the body as God expects you to, learning about other people's purposes and building them and their functions up, not tearing them down.

No matter who you are in the body of Christ, you need the function of an intercessor. You need someone anointed to bridge the gap for you and the body of Christ. Few are willing to pay the price and spend the time, as depicted when Jesus asked the disciples to watch and pray with Him just before His crucifixion. Jesus is the great intercessor and our example. After He asked the three with Him to watch, *He went forward and fell on the ground and prayed.* (Mark 14:32-35)

The three with Him went to sleep more than once during this whole ordeal, even though the Lord agonized (travailed) in prayer so much ... *"His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."* (Luke 22:44) The Lord wanted the disciples to watch and pray, so they wouldn't fall into temptation. Jesus was vexed in His soul. He said, *"My soul is exceedingly sorrowful unto death:...."* He returned to them three times before **He finally said, "It is enough."** (Mark 14: 34-41 ) Something needed to be prayed through or He wouldn't have said. "It is enough." Everything had already been ordained by God that was to happen to Jesus on the cross, down to the littlest detail, and yet something had to be travailed about to bring it forth. Jesus' flesh and soul was pulling away from God's purpose. *"...Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt."* (Mark 14:36) Intercession had to take place before the biggest event in the history of mankind, in order for it to come to pass, even though it had been ordained by God.

Now there's another great event ordained by God that needs spiritual warfare, agonizing prayer, and travail. It is the spotless church, the Bride. It will take much travail to purge harlotrous acts and bring into being those things, those acts, already ordained by God concerning the Bride. Harlotry must be brought down, and God has set this before us as a body. How well will we do? Intercessors, keep going because you are one of the keys to bringing forth the will of God! You are the one God has called and placed an anointing to bridge gaps that the other anointings can't bridge. He wants you to release the ability of the Holy Spirit through your person. Pray against harlotry and call forth the spotless church! The world needs it! Stay prayed up, placing intercession high on the list of importance in your life. It's for the Lord. The spotless church will save people and do things the church in the world never will. I know this because He's been teaching me about it. The Lord told me, *"Remember, it's for me and not for you."* Those words have changed my thought patterns and my actions. Have they touched your heart? (Jesus died, or paid the price, for everyone in the world but the church is falling short!)

If you are an intercessor and God uses you in travail, you've probably had the same problem I have had of knowing what to do when it comes. The following not only gives a pattern to follow in the church but paints a picture of the whole situation concerning the lack of understanding about spiritual intercession. Travail in the natural parallels travail in the spiritual!

### **Travail in the natural.**

Have you experienced being in a position of hearing a woman scream during the travail of childbirth? Chills went up and down my back the first time I ever heard this happen. Now that I think about it, no one likes to hear screams of distress anytime, partly because of what they indicate to the natural mind. **I wanted out of the room and away from the situation**, mainly because the screams suggested to my mind that the doctors had erred or something was dramatically wrong.

My reaction came from my lack of understanding. As I matured and came to understand birthing, a screaming woman ceased to bother me. I have compassion for her because I've learned that's the way some women deal with this painful situation, **the travail of birth.** Some women scream in childbirth and some don't. It's more painful for some than others and I've noticed that some women who don't scream tend to put down those who do. This isn't prevalent but nevertheless, exists. This comes from judging a situation without knowing or understanding all the facts. This is unlearned judgement, unrighteous judgement.

### **Travail in the Spirit.**

The picture I've painted in the natural applies to the spiritual picture also. The church basically has judged travail from an uneducated view. It hasn't understood travail so sometimes it is condemned. I, for one, was very leery the first time I saw spiritual travail and wanted out of the room, just like in the natural. The more I learned its purpose and saw its fruit, the more comfortable I've become with it. To birth Christ (Life) in someone, or situation, what more can one ask for? I have, however, been concerned when travail comes up in me in church and in public places. At times in church I've left and gone to other rooms and sometimes I've stayed, trying not to be conspicuous. A lot of times the travail is for myself or for the service. We need it because it changes things, whatever it is about. So, how should we handle travail in public places?



## A pattern to follow.

The birth of a child in the natural paints a picture and is a good correlation to what we should follow as a pattern in the church. When a child is born, it's a family thing. One doesn't invite the whole world. As far as family, it is for those to be there who know what's going on (like a midwife, those in charge, those wanting to learn and experience, those who know what's being birthed and are expecting and excited about it.) It's a private, family thing. How young a child do you let into a birthing room, even if it's family? I know most young children would only see the pain, blood, and hear the groaning and the screaming. This could be traumatic to a child, especially if they are not old enough to understand that life is coming into the world. The only way to help any unprepared person who's been thrust into this situation, is to explain everything that's occurring as it occurs. And even then, in their flesh, they could find it extremely objectionable.

All this applies to unlearned Christians being brought into a spiritual travail situation. Understand, "baby Christian," or "mature Christian," refers to education and maturity in the things of God. It has nothing to do with time (how long they have been a Christian) or whether they have the baptism of the Holy Spirit or not. There are people who were baptized in the Holy Spirit years ago who don't know any more about spiritual things than the day they were baptized.

In the natural one never knows the moment the pains of birth will come. Usually, when this starts, the mother is taken out of the public eye, to a hospital, or into seclusion somewhere. We don't allow babies to be born in public unless there is no other way.

In the church, a spiritual birth should be handled the same way. The problem is that, in the natural, the birth will occur no matter what, but a spiritual birth can be shut down because of simply being in a public place. Cut off by misunderstanding of what's really happening.

Once I was with a world-known evangelist who thought a particular person in travail was of the devil and he attempted to cast an evil spirit out of her, an intercessor. Nothing happened except that the intercession was stopped. The person being prayed for was the loser.

Yes, there is a false "birthing and travail." In those instances one needs discernment but that's not cause for "unrighteous judgements." The enemy uses the lack of knowledge in Christians to stop what God is doing. Travail is not barking like dogs or mimicking the actions of an animal. Travail in the spirit is what the Bible says it is, actions that parallel natural birthing actions. I've seen people produce groans and moans, thinking they are in travail. The Bible says, "*...the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*" "*Which cannot be uttered*" is important here. This has to do with the contractions and pressures of birth deep within the intercessor, which during the contraction, groanings cannot be uttered. The holding of the breath, and the movement deep within that comes from pushing, is what the Bible is talking about. Basically, groans from the voice box mean nothing but they can come, during and after the contractions take place, as the person's way of dealing with the situation, just like in natural births.

I'm not starting a new doctrine here; I'm just revealing something of the Holy Spirit. Paul travailed for people, and Jesus groaned within Himself before He raised Lazarath from the dead. God is the one who knows what needs to happen in our lives. I was delivered from the spirit of anger sovereignly by God, without the name of Jesus and without travail, as far as I know. I've been healed and delivered in the name of Jesus, without travail, so it's not a fix all. **But some-times there is need for travail**, as you can see from my testimony. The prayer of agreement in the name of the Lord didn't produce my deliverance from the spirit of fear.

If travail comes, allow it to function, and then learn. **Don't beat it with the whipping stick of ignorance.** Nurture it and let God reveal right and wrong. God never does anything without a purpose, **so if the Holy Spirit brings travail into the picture, it must needs be!**