

LESSONS FROM RICK JOYNER'S BOOK "THE FINAL QUEST"

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Recap of the previous lesson (Changing Hearts & Lives)

- All mankind's problems spring from the evil heart of mankind (Mark 7:21-23). Therefore, if we are to change lives, we must aim at changing the heart.
- Rick Joyner was told, "*You now have so little power to transform the . . . hearts of believers because you do not live or preach the cross.*" This means that in order to receive power to change evil hearts we must die to self, and live for God. When we 'die', Christ will live through us; and the power of His life will flow through us to change hearts.

Today's Topic: REMEMBERING ANGELO'S FRIENDS

(83:1) *As we began to walk again, Angelo entreated me, "Please remember my friends, the homeless. Many will love our Savior if someone will go to them."*

Galatians 2:9-10; Proverbs 19:17; 2 Corinthians 9:1, 7

(79:1) *"There is still someone you must meet before you return to the battle," He said as we walked.*

(79:5) *He then stopped, and I turned to look at those on the thrones next to us. We were still in the place where the highest kings were sitting. Then I recognized a man (ANGELO) who was close by.*

(80:2-6) *(ANGELO) had been born deaf. He was abused and kept in a dark, cold attic until he was found by the authorities when he was eight years old. He had then been shifted from one institution to another, where the abuse continued. Finally, he was turned out on the streets. The Lord had only given him three portions of His love to help him overcome all of this, but he had mustered every bit of it to fight the rage in his heart and keep from hurting the kitten.*

I now looked at that man, a king sitting on a throne far more glorious than Solomon could have even imagined. Hosts of angels were arrayed about him, waiting to do his bidding. I turned to the Lord in awe. I still could not believe he was real, much less one of the great kings.

"Lord, please tell me the rest of his story," I begged.

"Of course, that is why we are here. Angelo was so faithful with the little I had given to him that I gave him three more portions of My love. He used all of that to quit stealing. He almost starved, but he refused to take anything that was not his. He bought his food with what he could make collecting bottles, and occasionally he found someone who would let him do yard work.

"Angelo could not hear but he had learned to read, so I sent him a gospel tract. As he read it, the Spirit opened his heart, and he gave his life to Me. I again doubled the portions of My love to Him, and he faithfully used all of them. He wanted to share Me with others, but he could not speak. Even though he lived in such poverty, he started spending over half of everything he made on gospel tracts to give out on street corners."

(80:9-81:2) "But what did Angelo do to become a king here?" I asked.

"He was faithful with all that he was given. He overcame all until he became like Me, and he died a martyr."

"But what did he overcome, and how was he martyred?"

"He overcame the world with My love. Very few have overcome so much with so little. Many of My people dwell in homes with conveniences that kings would have envied just a century ago, yet they do not appreciate them. Angelo, on the other hand, would so appreciate even a cardboard box on a cold night that he would turn it into a glorious temple of My presence.

"Angelo began to love everyone and everything. He would rejoice more over an apple than some of My people do over a great feast. He was faithful with all that I gave him, even though it was not very much compared to what I gave others, including you . . ."

(81:11) "He froze to death trying to keep alive an old wino who had passed out in the cold."

(82:3-4) "Angelo was a martyr every day that he lived. He would only do enough for himself to stay alive, and he gladly sacrificed his life to save a needy friend. As Paul wrote to the Corinthians, even if you give your body to be burned, but do not have love, it counts as nothing. But, when you give yourself with love, it counts for much.

"Angelo died every day, because he did not live for himself but for others. Even though he always considered himself the least of the saints, he was truly one of the greatest. As you have already learned, many of those who consider themselves the greatest, and are considered by others to be the greatest, end up being the least here. Angelo did not die for a doctrine, or even for his testimony, but he did die for Me."

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Galatians 2:9-10; Matthew 25:31-40