

## “Shake It Off!”

- Act 27:23, 24 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, **whose I am, and whom I serve**, 24 Saying, **Fear not**, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, **God hath given** thee all them that sail with thee.
- Act 28:1 And **when they were escaped**, then they knew that the island was called Melita. (means honey: Malta)
- Act 28:2 And the barbarous people showed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.
- Act 28:3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and **laid them on the fire**, there came **a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand**.
- Act 28:4 And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.
- Act 28:5 **And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.** (Luke 10:19, Mark 16:18)
- Act 28:6 Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

1. The promise of God (we know the promise by reading the word, praying and listening to God speak to us in our time with Him.
2. The devil will try and fasten himself to your life in any area and will hold on, trying to steal, kill and destroy.  
1Pe 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, **seeking** whom he may **devour**: (to cause to be gone, annihilated, exist no more.)  
If the devil gets a hold and you do not shake him off, he will impact your life and you will begin to bear his fruit, his offspring, hate, anger, fear, doubt, rebellion, being led by the “spirit of disobedience”, instead of the Holy Spirit.
3. Paul’s response, he “**shook it off**” – we have all power over all the power of the enemy, “Shake him off”  
This requires consistent faithful lifestyle of fellowship with God and doing what God said to do.  
*When they saw that Paul did not die, they changed their opinion of him and from this “fruit” came forth many that were healed – When people “SEE” the fruit (Word and Power) in your life they will change their opinion and receive from you what God has put in there to give to the world.*

**The year 2009 is the year of “Fruitfulness”** – (fruitful: to bear fruit, to grow, increase, fertile)

2Pe 1:8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be **barren** nor **unfruitful** in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 is the number of “fruitfulness” – (there are 9 gifts of the Spirit and 9 fruit of the Spirit) **WE NEED BOTH!**

In the Old Testament a reproach (disgrace) of women was barrenness – Barrenness – stiff, un-natural, sterile

- 2Ki 2:19 And the men of the city said unto Elisha, Behold, I pray thee, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord seeth: but the water is naught, and the ground **barren**.
- 2Ki 2:20 And he said, Bring me a new cruse, and put **salt** therein. And they brought it to him.
- 2Ki 2:21 And he went forth unto the spring of the waters, and cast the salt in there, and said, Thus saith the LORD, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any more death or barren land.
- Joh 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.
- Joh 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same **bringeth forth much fruit**: for without me ye can do nothing.
- Joh 15:2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

In this upcoming New Year, we will need to live and walk in God's way in the following:

- **Revelation**
  - We must go deeper before we go higher (dig deeper into the Word, God will take us higher)

- A greater revelation of sin – what causes us to miss the mark, Hebrews 12:1 calls them “besetting sins”
  - Beset: to trouble, harass, assail, to hem in, surround, with continuous persistence.
- Hate what God hates, love what God loves.
- **Obedience**
  - Our well-being depends on our obedience
  - Rebellion will result in immediate breakdown. (failure to function, to progress, a collapse)
- **Speaking the Word**
  - Stop speaking words and proclamations that are not God's Word – If we speak fear we will live in fear. If we speak defeat, we will be defeated. If we speak recession, we will personally have it.
- **Staying out of fear**
  - The enemy will intimidate you with past failures, re-establish old strongholds, and mindsets so you lose confidence (faith in God in you) – keep moving in God, do not let fear cause stagnancy or being immobile.
  - Listening to the wrong voices will cause you to live in fear and will give you false or wrong information. We must hear God and God alone. Let His word, His voice dominate **EVERY PART** of our lives.
- **Time with God**
  - One of our biggest enemies that keep us from hearing God is “no quiet time”. First we do not make time to get before God, Second we do not know how to be quiet – to shut up and “**LISTEN**”
- **NO baggage to the new year**
  - We cannot take the past into the New Year – Leave everything of 2008 in 2008. Forgive, forget, go forward.
  - All past issues and the pain of every situation cannot be taken across the threshold of 2009
  - Our personal history of bondages or unfulfilled expectations is not needed or beneficial in 2009.
  - What you did or did not do in 2008 cannot be taken into 2009 – Repent and move on. We began a new beginning in 2008 now we must produce or bring forth the “FRUIT” of that new beginning-
- **Victory**
  - Defeat the devil where you find him (if he sticks his head up cut it off) don't accommodate him or his people
  - We are fully equipped with every weapon necessary to win every battle and live in victory.
  - Every battle is not ours, fight only the battles God assigns you
    - Do not try and fight another's battle if God did not assign it to you. You will not have His backing to do so. It will drain you, beat you down and oppress you.
- **Unity**
  - We must get into unity with God and His Word and refuse to move from that position. We must get into unity within our church and God's plan for this church. Divided we fall, unified we succeed.

**Standing** on the “Rock” will keep us sure, when the winds of adversity come. Many may be moved from their stability or even places of power – we must stand “**strong and courageous**” – (only in Jesus does this happen)

**Specifically** - - *For those who do not think of themselves as being important - - -To know the truth is to be free - -!*

1Co 12:27 Now you [collectively] are Christ's body and [individually] you are members of it, each part severally and distinct [each with his own place and function]. (amp)

**Uniquely designed to function and supply when in the right place**

We find in this verse this thought – Only as you accept, your part of the body does your “part” mean anything!

**Until we come into unity with God and with His plan who we are will not come to full completion.**

**IT IS TIME TO BE WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST, DO WHAT CHRIST HAS CALLED, AND BE CONNECTED God's WAY.**

**Everyone functioning in the unction of their function!**