**Transcript of Podcast XXXVI Part II**

**A Letter to the West from Persecuted Believers in China**

 In Podcast XXXVI Part II, as I prelude to reading the letter, I spontaneously gave some of my testimony about working with the persecuted believers in Mainland China during the years 1994 and 1995 with Open Doors ministry. My experiences could fill a book. You can read about some of the experiences and miracles in my autobiography, *Touching the Eternal*, sold in book form on Amazon, and on Amazon Kindle.

 Meeting with these most joyful and yet strongly loyal believers, personally encouraging them, helping them to get Bibles. I met with some of the “princes of His people” some who were in prison 20 years or more, some denied rights, some under house arrest, and some whose family members were killed for their faith. I also personally heard stories from those in North Vietnam and North Korea, Indonesia, Sudan, and other Muslim countries.

 The main focus of this podcast was to read pages 93-96 of Carl Lawrence’s book *The Church in China – How It Survives and Prospers Under Communism.* This letter is from a true born-again believer, representing true born-again believers in China, written to the believers in Western nations. It is sobering and numbing to say the least. References to joy and faith may sound foreign to those in Western nations, but soon what they suffer daily will be the same worldwide for all true believers whose faith is rooted in the blood of the Lamb, His resurrection, and in His soon coming!

 I heard recently that a revival has broken out once again in China as the born again believers are joyfully risking their lives to spread the Good News of the salvation of the Jewish Messiah who died in our place and rose again to give us eternal life. Their faith is strong. Their joy is powerful. The transforming power within the salvation of Yahushua is so great, that people I’ve known have gone from demon possession to being totally free. I saw so much of this in the African “bush.” Our authority builds as we proclaim!

 They are those of **Daniel 11:32**: “Those that know their Elohim will be strong and will act.” I encourage you to read the manual I wrote on faith, entitled *Faith Walk*. **Habakkuk 2:4:** **“THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY HIS FAITH.”**

 ***THE CHURCH IN CHINA*:**

Here is the word for word copy of that letter:

 Page 93: Lawrence says: “A house church leader wrote this letter to the church in the West”

 **THE LETTER**: “On behalf of the brothers and sisters in China, I send greetings to the members of the body overseas!

 Today, the church here is being greatly blessed by the lord and the number of people being saved is increasing daily.

Page 94: “The proverb `When good is one foot high, evil is ten feet high’ is true. But the growth in the life of the church has been promoted, even by the servants of the devil. Wherever the church flourishes there are difficulties. The revival of the church here has grown up in this situation. For if Jesus had not been crucified, none today could be saved; if there were n o testing by fire, then true faith would not become apparent, and if there is no training, we could not become instruments used by the Lord. If the rock is not split open, the water of life cannot flow forth, so difficulties are the means for promoting life and revival in the churches.

 Recently the gospel here has once again been greatly promoted because ten brothers and sisters were imprisoned, beaten and bound for preaching the gospel fearlessly. They regarded their sufferings for the Lord more precious than the treasures of Egypt. [Referring to Hebrews 11 about Moses]

 They started to preach the gospel in the poorest and most barren areas. They preached with tears streaming down, causing the passers-by and street-sellers, Christians and non-Christians, to stand still and listen. Even fortune tellers were moved by the Holy Spirit and burst out crying. Many people hearing the Word forgot their food, their work, or even to return home.

 This went on until evening and still people had not dispersed. The brothers and sisters preached until they were exhausted, but the crowd would not let them leave. When the shops and factories closed, their employees also listened. However, then the authorities made a move and laid hands on them, dragged them away one by one, binding them with ropes and beating them with electric shock-poles. They also slapped their faces with shoes and knocked them unconscious. But, when they came to, they continued to pray, sing, and preach to the bystanders.

 There was one little sister, age 14, and when she revived after having been beaten senseless, she saw that many people were sympathetic to them in their persecution, so she again began to preach. Her words were few and her voice low, but the people could not stop themselves from crying out and then they repented and believed in Jesus.

 Page 95: “When the young girl and her friends were bound and beaten by the authorities, many people noticed a strange expression on their faces, and the crowd saw to their amazement that they were smiling. Their spirit and appearance was so lively and gracious that the people asked them why they did not feel ashamed. They were so young, where did their power came from? They told them so all could hear. Many were led to believe in Jesus by their example.

 At this point, many people who had not accepted the preaching were also influenced and came to watch them. Many people who attended Three-Self churches also came to know Jesus. Those who had not received the truth came to understand.

 When the people in that area saw the young preachers bound and forced to kneel on the ground for more than three days without food or water, and beaten with sticks until their faces were covered with blood, with their hands made black by the ropes, but still praying, singing, and praising the Lord, then, they, too, were cut to the heart and wished to share their persecution and be bound with them and cast into prison. So in this area recently the flame of the gospel has spread everywhere. There has never been a revival here before, but through the persecution, this place has truly the seeds of Life. May everyone who hears of this give thanks and praise for the revival of the church in this area.

 In men’s eyes this is an unfortunate happening, but for Christians it is like a rich banquet. This lesson cannot be learned from books, and this sweetness is not usually tasted by men. This rich life does not exist in a comfortable environment. Where there is no cross, there is no crown. If the spices are not refined to become oil, the fragrance of the perfume cannot flow forth and if grapes are not crushed in the vat, they will not become wine.

 Dear brethren, these saints who have gone down into the furnace [Daniel 3] far from being harmed, have had their faces glorified and their spirits filed with power, and greater authority to preach the Word and a far more abundant life. The Lord will have the final victory in their bodies, making Satan to be (Page 96) ashamed. In fact, finally Satan had no way of making them renounce their faith and they were released.

 God has placed us in these last days to wage war so that the number of those saved will increase through us, and that His will shall be fulfilled through us in this generation. He desires us to advance into glory with Him. So making the most of the very short time left, let us continually do the work of the lord, because there are still many souls who have not been brought home and many lambs wandering in the mountains and high peaks without any to seek and find them.

 May the Lord Jesus place a burden to reach the gospel on each laborer’s heart and give a spirit of prayer to each Christian so each will become a prayer warrior. Let no one in the Lord be lazy or idle. May our spiritual brethren strive even to meet the need of Christian literature because God has placed you in a good environment to fulfill His task. May God give you a heart faithful to death until He comes. All who have such a heart will obtain a great reward. The Lord will come soon. I desire you to come! Dear fellow workers may the Lord give you hearts to pray for each other, so that we may all be faithful in the Lord’s house until that day. Emanuel!”

 Carl Lawrence ends the chapter: “This letter to the church outside China is simply signed `From a weaker member of the Body, May 6, 1982.’

 From my padded pew, in my air-conditioned sanctuary, holding my computerized mailing list, an ad for a new version of the Bible, subscription reminders for three Christian magazines, and several invitations to `giant spiritual rallies,’ I withhold comments—not because of a lack of words, but an inability to speak.” HalleluYah!

 Let me go on with this a couple of pages more, not as a transcript, but as an exhortation from Yahuwah.

 I encourage you to read the biography of a man, a pastor, who became a friend to me, under house arrest in GhangZhou, China, who had been in prison for 20 years – the biography of Samuel Lamb, *Bold as a Lamb*. I met with him in his upstairs “church” on several occasions. His impact on my life was great! I have a signed transcript of his second book that I don’t think was ever published. He was a friend of the famous Wang Ming Tao who was in prison for 23 years. They were released about the same time because the government could do nothing to weaken their faith. Upon meeting, they laughed. Samuel said, “Here we are, Mr. Danger and Mr. Danger--the two most dangerous men in China.” That’s what the authorities thought of them – as being dangerous to Communism. I urge you to also read the biography of Wang Ming Tao *Walk the Hard Road*.

 Those like them are now in another revival. Those of the House Church Movement, meeting in secret, yet not being secret as individuals, they now number nearly 200 million.

 I took illegal materials (Bibles) into a province north of GuangZhou. It was February 12, 1995. I did not know what else happened that day until I read about it in a *Voice of the Martyr’s* magazine. At that very time I was taking Bibles in, about 2 hours by train north of me, a man named Li de Xian was being beaten nearly to death for taking Bibles to a small congregation. The congregation members were also beaten. Li was taken back home. After healing, he went right back to that same place taking more Bibles.

 In 1995, also, I was given an assignment to take Bible teaching materials into ShenZhen, across the Hong Kong border for a young girl who was discipling new believers there. I met her in ShenZhen and we had lunch together. She said that her husband was in the north of China taking Bibles to a remote village via his bicycle. She said they had only been married a few months. They wanted children, but the work for the Master came first. They could wait she said.

 I cry every time I think of these precious ones who risk their lives daily to take the Good News of salvation to the lost. Most of those who even have a Bible only have a New Testament. Many congregations have no place to meet but in the forests, and the pastor may have a Bible, or may not. Yet, from what they have learned from others, they know John 3:16 and they praise the Savior and spread the Good News.

 I urge you to read the life of Brother Yun--*The Heavenly Man*. He tells his own story, which will give you a good view of “normal” life under persecution. Their stories are not for our entertainment, but for our sobering, to wake up and know what is important in this life, and what is not. About 98% of what we think is important in the Western world is uselessness in view of eternity. I’ve worked with many believers in many hard situations. In some places the people had never heard seen airplane, or heard of a computer, a TV, or a cell phone. In Africa, they lived in mud and cow dung houses. I lived with them in their houses. Yet, they had a joy few have in the West. Their greatest passion was to share the Good News of salvation. What is really important in our lives? Look around you. Are you a servant of Yahushua or a servant of the lusts of the flesh?

 The Kingdom is coming! It will be giant class room. Those with faith like Abel, Seth, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Yitzak, and Ya’cob, never heard of the Torah. They had no Bibles. Yet, these walked in faith, knowing and obeying Yahuwah who led them. Abraham’s servant was on his way into Syria to find a bride for Yitzak/Isaac. He made a statement that few in Western chritianity understand at all: “I, being in the way, Yahuwah led me.” (He may have said “Shaddai,” because that’s the title Abraham know.) But, Abraham met with Yahushua. He knew the Almighty, the Most High! Read **Romans 4:17-25 and Hebrews 11**. Faith is what pleases Yahuwah--faith followed by obedience to what He has told His servants!

 So are those in China, and in other countries where there is severe persecution. They might not know much more than the basics of salvation through the blood of the Lamb and His powerful resurrection, but they live up to all they know, just like Abraham did – our father in faith!

 In the Kingdom these with simple child-like faith will have great reward, and then they will sit down and be taught to observe the Torah! It will be their great delight to learn how to please the King by obeying His instructions and teachings! They will see the Torah as a great honor and privilege because they love the King with all their heart. As they are now – totally not religious – so they will be then!

 All of our head-knowledge, good as it is, has led a lot of people to become Pharisaical--self-righteous, arrogant, pompous, and cruelly judgmental. “Unless you turn and become as little children, you shall by no means enter the Kingdom of Heaven.” (**Matthew 18:1-4**)

 Those that know the love of Yahuwah walk in His love, as little children. Of the pompous religious ones Messiah said that the prostitutes and tax collectors would go into the Kingdom before them. He said to us that unless our righteousness is greater than their performance, we won’t enter either. **Habakkuk 2:4**: **“The just shall live by his faith.”**

 Refer to my manual on faith “Faith Walk,” under the Mikvah of the Spirit.

May we prepare ourselves to embrace this life with simple faith, obeying the Master, loving and sharing the Word with those who are “lost.”

 In His shalom, love, and joy

Yedidah

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