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## Sowing Seeds of Truth!

Ecclesiastes 11:6 Says, "Plant your seeds early in the morning and keep working in the field until dark. Who knows? Your work might pay off, and your seeds might produce." (Contemporary English Version)



Agriculture played a vital role in ancient Hebrew society. This is why Jesus incorporated agricultural themes into His illustrations. For example, He likened the preaching of the Gospel to the sowing of seed. (Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23; Luke 8:5-15) To this day, whether we live in an agricultural society or not, sowing the Gospel seed is the most important work that Christians can do!

The Apostle Paul expressed the importance of this work when he said: "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" (Romans 10:14-15 KJV) Never before in human history has it been more important to press ahead in fulfilling this God-given commission.

Jesus made it clear very early in His ministry that His commission was that of preaching the Gospel. (Luke 4:17-21) And toward the end of his ministry He explained, "...To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice." (John 18:37 KJV) During His earthly ministry of three and a half years, Jesus was fully focused on sowing the seeds of truth. He spread seeds of the Gospel at every opportunity. Even as He was dying on the cross, He proclaimed good news about a future earthly paradise. (Luke 23:43)

We at Prophecies of Hope have a love and genuine interest in all people! It's our mission to help fulfill the Gospel commission Jesus gave by spreading seeds of God's truth to as many as possible before Jesus comes in the clouds. We rejoice when even one person accepts God's message of salvation!

For this reason the Prophecies of Hope team is planning to launch a free ministry program in which we will help to teach others how to confidently



Listen to Mark and Rick broadcast a radio program each week called, **"Prophecies of Hope, Bible Answers"** Please join them as they study and discuss a different Bible topic each week! You can find the schedule at, [newvisionsradio.com](http://newvisionsradio.com)

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and effectively share Bible truth with anyone at any time and in every place! We will not only study Bible topics for conversation, but we will teach how to seize every appropriate opportunity to sow seeds of Bible truth with friends, family, neighbors, workmates, etc. We are praying that this will be an ongoing program which will help individuals lead many people to God and His Son Jesus, (John 3:16) while never forgetting that although we are the ones who plant and water the seeds, it is God who makes them grow! (1 Corinthians 3:6, 7)

Mark Martin, POH.

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## The Visible Reveals the Invisible

In the first words of the book of Hebrews we read. "God, who at sundry times and divers manners spoke at times past unto the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken unto us by His Son,..." (Hebrews 1:1-2) What a blessing! Paul is telling us what we should already know. That God has spoken and revealed Himself through real, tangible, visible people, His instruments. Even though we may not at this time be able to see God (John 1:18), He has shown Himself to us in ways we can actually see and understand. Not only by people, but by nature, by caring and love, and by His providence. His physical presence and His characteristics are invisible to us, they are too bright for us. But He has shown us Himself by what we are able to see.

Remember the old testament tabernacle that the Israelites moved with them throughout the journey to the promised land? In Exodus chapter 25 God tells Moses to make this sanctuary "so that I may dwell among them" (Exodus 25:8). And then He gives Moses the pattern of the sanctuary in Heaven and tells Moses, "therefore, even so ye shall make it" (Exodus 25:9). God was revealing the unseen or invisible tabernacle in Heaven to them in a real physical way. He was showing them the plan of salvation on a level they could understand. He used the visible to unlock the invisible.



The story of Joseph comes to mind also. If you remember, Joseph (by God's power) had become the ruler over all the house of Pharaoh and all the land of Egypt. (Genesis 41) Here we see God revealing the invisible. God is showing us that Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, is the ruler over all of His house and over all of His kingdom. (1 Corinthians 15:24-28) By the visible example of Joseph we see an example of Christ who was invisible to us. In ruling over the king's house and kingdom, in being the judge of all the people and by giving his brothers real tangible tests, the experience of Joseph is able to reveal the work and reality of what Christ does and who Christ is. This is also a real representation of what Christ is doing in our hearts! →

We reveal our invisible character in us by the visible things we say and do each day. Today, God does not need a physical sanctuary to be able to dwell with us. The invisible God Jehovah is revealed to us through the spirit of Christ which dwells in us (John 14:23). Christ Himself lives in our hearts (John 14:18) and makes an impression upon our minds. As we live out our real, tangible, physical lives we can reveal the very character of God through the spirit of Christ. The invisible is revealed by the visible! The only question that remains for each of us is, will we allow Christ, this Son of the living God, full access to our hearts and minds, in order to reveal the Father through us? Hopefully, we can answer with a confident, YES!

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## Questions From The POH Mailbox



### Why do people say "amen" at the end of a prayer?

The word "amen," in both English and Greek, is a transliteration of the Hebrew a-men' (pronounced *aw-mane'*). The expression, usually uttered in unison by listeners to a prayer, oath or blessing, basically means "so be it," or "surely." Saying amen serves to indicate agreement with the sentiments just expressed. The word amen suggests certainty, truthfulness, faithfulness, and absence of doubt. In the Bible, the expression also legally obliged its user with regard to an oath or covenant and its consequences. (See Deuteronomy 27:15-26)

While preaching and teaching, Jesus introduced some of His statements with the word "amen." By doing so, He underlined the absolute reliability of what He was about to say. In these cases, the Greek word a-men' is translated "verily" in the King James Version and "truly" in some other translations. (See Matthew 5:18; 6:2, 5) When doubled, "Verily, verily" (King James Version) as is the case throughout the Gospel of John, Jesus' expression is literally translated, "Amen, amen" which means "most truly" or "truly, truly" or "Most assuredly" depending on the Bible translation you are reading. (John 1:51) Jesus' use of amen in this way is said to be unique in sacred writings.

Last, but certainly not least, in the New Testament the title "Amen" is applied to Jesus Himself, to indicate that His witness is "faithful and true." (Revelation 3:14)

Mark Martin, POH.

**Is there a Bible question you would like to have answered but have hesitated to ask? Please feel free to mail or email your Bible questions to;**

**Prophecies of Hope!  
PO Box 3187  
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## Healthy Living



By being health conscious in a reasonable way, you can lower your risk of illness. In this regard, wisdom and understanding can serve as a form of insurance. Be aware of hazards to your health, and take prompt action when health problems develop. More important, learn how to maintain your health and that of your family. Remember the old saying: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Prophecies of Hope provides information to encourage people to live in harmony with Bible principles, thereby avoiding habits and life-styles that are damaging to health. In the upcoming newsletters we plan to include articles about the importance of cleanliness, a proper diet, sufficient sleep, and regular exercise as well as the need to control stress and the pace of life. You can also visit our website and watch the "healthy Living" blurbs. You will find practical things you can do to live a longer and healthier life both now and in the future!

Mark Martin, POH.

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## Shared Testimony

Many times we may share Bible truth with people we know and we have no idea of the impact that God's Word has had on that individual and how it can affect not only that person, but others as well. Below is a brief testimony written by a friend, (A school teacher) who attended the Prophecies of Hope seminars over the past two years and she continues to come and participate in the Friday night Bible study we hold each week. In the 2013 series one of our lectures in was entitled, "God's Free Health Plan!" This message was about the Biblical diet, focusing not only on Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14, but we also spent time discussing the original diet that God intended for all of mankind. We are thrilled to say that this message had a positive life-changing effect on at least 4 people who attended! Here's the testimony as written by my friend. She wrote;



**"A 13 year old boy (Student) approached me and he asked me if I liked pork sausage? I think if I had said yes he would have brought some to me. I told him I didn't eat sausage or anything from a pig anymore. He asked why and I explained that it is stated in the Bible that a pig is considered unclean because it doesn't chew its cud. He then asked me what my religion was and I explained I didn't really associate with a particular religion but I am involved in a Bible study group."**

Praise the Father and His Son! 1 Corinthians 15:58 says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." Please keep the Prophecies of Hope ministry in your prayers as we continue moving forward in the Lord's work.

Mark Martin, POH.