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CRUSHED BY GOD

As we come into the Days of Awe which are ten days of repentance and include Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we have a time of inner inspection and self-examination to remove those things displeasing to God. It is a time of getting things right with God.

In 2022 the Lord showed me that there would be a crushing process that those that wanted more of God would be going through. Russell and I have been through it, and so have many others. It is not a pleasant experience to be crushed. You lose all sense of control. You often do not understand what is going on, but the crushing is necessary to bring forth the precious oil that God wants on and in your life.

How does this take place? That certainly is a great question. The simplest way is the surrender of our will to God's will. It is allowing God to remove those things from our lives that are not bringing glory to him. The "press" squeezes the oil or wine out and leaves the empty shell of a grape or the olive. They are crushed to the point that they are no longer of value. They had served their purpose and were discarded. It means crucifying the flesh, letting the old nature die, and walking in the spirit.

Many times, there are things in our lives that we think are important, but they are simply idols. An idol is anything that comes first in your life before God. Our first thoughts in the morning and our last thoughts at night must be centered on God. We rise and thank him for the new day. We go to sleep and thank him for bringing us through the day.

Other things that may need to go are relationships that are not holy. You cannot be joined together if one is a believer, and the other is not or even if one is a believer and totally sold out to God and the other is a carnal Christian. That, according to God would be a "mixed marriage." Even if someone has the greatest qualities, a Christian can never consider a non-believer as a "marriage" partner because it will not work. If you are already married to a non-believer God is not saying you should divorce, because He hates divorce. He is letting you know that it was not a good choice you made and now you may have to choose between serving God or being pulled back into the things of the world because of this relationship. It is always sad to see a couple in this kind of relationship where one wants to be involved in the things of God and the other does not.

If you want to see the anointing on your life and the Holy Spirit poured out through you, then you must be willing to go through the process of "the press" in order to bring these to you. Easy? No, but it is well worth the surrendering of our will to please God.

You can be sure that when you come through this season of crushing that you will never be the same and will not regret the process it took to get you there.