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THE PLUMBLINE

My late husband was a builder and a perfectionist when it came to work. Years ago, he was contracted to build a convenience store. I stopped by one afternoon to see how it was coming along as he was taking care of other business. As I looked at one of the walls being constructed, I could see that it was very crooked. Even with the natural eye it was out of line. He had trusted the block layers that he had hired to do the job right, but they had not.

It was very obvious when I looked at that wall that it wasn't straight. They had not used a chalk line. My late husband made them tear the wall down and rebuild it properly.

How can you know when something is straight when you build it? You use a chalk line and a plumbline. It often starts with a chalk line which is a string wound up like a yoyo inside a metal holder. It is filled with powdered chalk, which is usually blue. You pull the string out horizontally, covered with the chalk, and you pull it taut then you twang against what you are trying to make the line on. The chalk remains after you let the string go, and it is perfectly straight. Then to make sure it is vertically straight you take a plumbline which is a string with a weighted piece on one end. The weighted end is dropped vertically against the wall to make sure the corner is straight at 90°.

In the book of Amos God speaks to the prophet about judgment coming on Israel. They had been warned and warned about their sin but did not repent. Chapter 7:7-9 and says, ***"Thus he showed me: and behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand. And the LORD said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the Lord, behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more: and the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."***

What is God's plumbline? It is His word. It will always be straight. It will cause us to go the straight and narrow way when we follow it. When we don't go this way, we go the broad way which leads to destruction.

As I write this, the Lord has shown me that a plumbline has been cast. There have been pulpits, pastors and prophets that have not lined up with God's plumbline against sin, and they must either repent or fall. Because the plumbline has been cast, God has allowed plagues to come and natural disasters to come because the world has gone against "His" plumbline, His word. There can be no change made unless sin is brought down through repentance and the Word of God is raised up which is the plumbline of God.

There is a remnant that have not turned their faces from God. God will use that remnant in the last days to bring souls into the kingdom, one by one. God doesn't want anyone to perish my

friends, that is why He has given us His plumbline, His word. Now it is our choice to adhere to it or go against it. The plumbline has been cast to call us to repentance.