

When Giving Up is NOT an Option/Part 1/Interview with Ezekiel

August 23, 2016

Clare: Well, Heartdwellers, a lot of you have been praying for Ezekiel because he's been sick. He's had kind of a bout with his stomach and intestines - it's been really hard. Especially our prayer warrior team has been praying fervently for him. And a really amazing thing took place last night. We wanted to share it with you, because it just highlights the awesome power of God.

You want to tell us what happened?

Ezekiel: Sure. A lot of you, as Clare has said, have been praying for me, fervently - and I'm overwhelmed at the letters and cards and emails from the heart, from the soul, from the spirit. The STRONG, strong words that you guys have spoken over me. I mean, it's so amazing when you write and then Holy Spirit starts praying through you.

Clare: Giving you a blessing...

Ezekiel: Oh, my gosh!

Clare: It's beautiful!

Ezekiel: What you speak, He incarnates, I gotta tell you - I'm living proof. Well... He spoke the Word and the Universe was created, so...

Clare: Tremendously powerful.

Ezekiel: When these abdominal seizures would begin to happen - and I'm not talking about here and there. I'm talking about every day, every night for hours on end. And I'd get some relief in between, but it was like, oh, my Lord - it was over 5 1/2 weeks at least this last bout.

And you're watching two people that you really...that you love more than anything in the world. You're watching the Lord and you're watching, if you're blessed to have a helpmate/heartmate in your spouse...you're watching them. Some of you understand what that's like. And it's killing you. In your heart and mind and soul, it's killing you to see that it's killing them slowly. Something's attacking YOUR body and you just see them, somehow - by the grace of God - get up again and again and again. And keep going and keep praying and keep smiling. And they're there for every single detail that the Lord wants, that you need - and anything or anyone else.

So, I gotta tell you that right off the bat. This 5 1/2 week period led up to a, I guess a topping off point, a crisis point. It really came to a head yesterday.

I've walked with the Lord for some 30 years. I've come very close to the "crossing over" 3 times. Well, yesterday was number 3. And I've gotta tell you - it wasn't pretty. It was the hardest thing I think I've ever, ever been through. I just can't describe what it was like. And I kept thinking, 'Lord! I wanted this to be a time of celebration, a beautiful time. Something's not right in the water, here. Something's not right - there's darkness. There's turmoil. There's no peace.'

And my poor wife is just exhausted. I mean, we're talking about, as of yesterday, we were running on about 28 hours at that point.

And so, I went to my Scriptures, asked for some kind of guidance. I've turned up Scriptures on Death many times. But usually, it's always before or after something about our enemies, or this thing or that thing. THIS time it was sandwiched smack in the middle of Eternal Life - you know, how it's gonna be when we're in Heaven. Here's Death, right in the middle, all these Scriptures about how we're destined to die at some point... Unless! We're caught up in the Rapture. And He's going to raise us up on the last Day anyway. The third reading as we recall, because I was so in and out of it, readINGS, Scripture readings were all about the Holy Spirit - "I've told you these things that you might have joy."

Clare: You were using the Bible Promises.

Ezekiel: At that point, yes. The Bible Promises is...I know there've been a lot of critics, but it's just pure Scripture from cover to cover. And it's...sometimes you need "a word in season," you know? People used to make fun of "flip for a Script" or "Bible roulette" - open a Bible... badoom! Well...the Lord SPEAKS through His Word. And whether it's your large family Bible, or your church Bible, or whatever - Scripture is Scripture.

Clare: So, tell us what happened.

Ezekiel: So, the third Scripture was confirming that "this is the Holy Spirit". And I haven't heard - I haven't been able to hear from the Lord. I've been able to sense Him, oh, months. It's been a LONG, dry period. And I know a lot of you have been praying for a breakthrough with my music. It's been over a year since some of the songs He gave me...

Clare: So, the readings were very convincing that you might be dying, right?

Ezekiel: Yeah.

Clare: The Lord had been kinda quiet. You have the added cross of hearing the demonic dimension very, very clearly, most of the time. Tremendous amount of lying spirits, discouragement, condemnation - trying to cause fear and that kind of thing. So, you're real familiar with that and the Lord once told me that's one of your crosses.

Ezekiel: Oh, yeah..

Clare: And then when He breaks through and you start hearing HIM, it's like He gives you a respite from all that, and you have this wonderful time of really clear communication with Him.

Ezekiel: Right. Right.

Clare: So, this was still in a time of darkness.

Ezekiel: Yeah. I mean, we're just going back a few hours to yesterday evening, getting into the early hours of this morning. I heard the Lord clearly, and He said, "You have a choice. You can get up and walk out of this bed. Or...I love you, but I'm gonna have to bring you Home. I can't use you, I can't use you like this." And I thought, 'What?? Well, what about all the suffering, and those behind...?' He wasn't talking about that.

So, I got a little suspicious about the Scripture readings I'd been getting, you know? I thought, 'I'm gonna do a little tie-breaker thing here, so to speak.' And I went to the Scriptures a fourth time and got Laziness.

Clare: oooooh...ouch!

Ezekiel: Ooooh... I thought, "Uh oh! Wow! Lord, I'm laying here basically almost Cheyne-Stokes breathing, the last breathing that you have, when you only take a breath every two or three minutes, sometimes. I felt like not a drop was left of anything in my body - heart, mind, spirit, soul - you name it. And I said, "You're asking me...You're telling me that I'm LAZY?" I mean, I repent! And I know I have been at times, but... My God! Where's Your mercy?!"

And it was as if He said, "This IS My mercy. This is My mercy. I won't breach your will, I won't cross your will. But I love you enough, and I love souls enough that I'll bend your will. I'll push your will. I might even "scare" your will. But I WILL have My way in your life, if you'll let Me."

I started to get Scriptures about Faith at that point. So, my spirits started to lift. But I'm telling you, guys - I have never been closer to death in my life, except those NDE's, crossing over. And this was not a nice, happy thing. And all of a sudden I felt like I was under correction - I didn't understand.

And I just said, "Lord, I'm in the deepest, deepest pit. I'm at the bottom of the well. I don't...there's nothing left! I don't have anything. If anything happens, it's gotta be You. There's just not a gram or shred of any....I CAN'T!"

Clare: You mean getting out of bed.

Ezekiel: Right!

Clare: You didn't have any strength to get out of bed.

Ezekiel: And then I remembered: confession is good for the soul. We need to confess our sins to one another. This past week it had gotten so ...and you know. I know that you know what I'm talking about. So many of you guys. I got to the point where I said, "I can't do this anymore, Lord. Take the mansion You've shown me, everything You've promised - please don't send me to Hell...but, give me a little corner shack in the WAY far reaches of anything...but I can't do this anymore. I just can't."

Clare: You mean the pain, every day. Every time you eat...yeah. The pain was just terrible. Ice packs every night.

Ezekiel: Every day, every night. If you get up at all, you know. And I can't describe all that - but you all have IV's, and ...well, not all of you. But many of you have those kind of things. You've been bed-ridden...trying to give you some hope, here.

Clare: We didn't really talk about why...about how, day after day, you just couldn't work. I mean, you'd come in and look at your equipment...and people were praying that you could do some music. But it was like you were avoiding it. And then, when you did try it, to work on it, then you had pain because your guitar was in the place where your stomach was sensitive. But there were a few days in there where you just didn't have the will to carry on, really.

Ezekiel: Right.

Clare: You know. And you were really balking, and I think that's why the Lord brought you to this point where you're either going to get out of bed or I'm going to take you Home, because you're not - you're not doing what you're supposed to be doing.

And He corrected me the same night.

Ezekiel: All, exactly at the same time!

Clare: ...exactly at the same time - yeah. And my correction was - which I shared with you guys yesterday, in yesterday's message. My correction was that He wants a message out every night. He wants more.

Ezekiel: And this was a loving correction. I mean, you guys that know the Lord, you know Him.

I'm telling you, I was RIGHT THERE. And...an amazing thing happened! I found myself up on one elbow and turning...and slipping out of the bed. And...on my feet. Well, it's not all flowers and roses yet, because there's still no strength...just enough... It's like, He gives you just enough for the next move. Just enough for the next step of faith. I tried to take a step, and I basically kinda caught myself on my elbows on the side of the bed. Had my head down...and one of our poor little kitties, Gracie, she was sound asleep. She woke up, she looked so worried! I mean, the cats were so clingy, like they knew. And the puppy...everything. So, I'm standing there, holding myself on my elbows, and somehow get a breath, a deep breath and push myself back up. That probably happened three times. It took me, easily, about 10 minutes to get from that bed to my room, where I have a little prayer altar, and my sound equipment, recording console, instruments, that kind of thing. Just one room away. 10 minutes.

Walked through the kitchen - for some odd reason, Clare decided a couple days ago to make a BIG batch of Kaniwa, or Quinoa - however you pronounce it. What's - it an old Aztec grain or something?

Clare: Yeah, it's high in protein and I creamed it, because you can't have anything that has little tails on it, like that does when you cook it. I creamed it and put a little sugar and a little almond extract and a little...that's about it. And blended it. Oh, a little coconut milk, I think. And blended that. It makes a wonderful drink. You can drink it hot or cold, it's very, very nourishing. Well, I made that...

Ezekiel: All I can tell you is, this is like a recipe straight from Heaven. The Lord sent...she hasn't made that for years.

So, that was there and I had a little bit of that. I'm talking about 2 or 3 little sips... and a little sip of fruit juice. And I felt stronger.

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Clare: Well, so much for part one, guys. Tomorrow we'll have part two - and maybe part three! So stay tuned. The Lord bless you.

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## When Giving Up is Not an Option, Part 2

August 24, 2016

Clare: Okay, so - you got out of bed..

Ezekiel: I got out of bed, made it into the loop, but as I was walking through the kitchen, I had a very clear, very clear picture - mind's eye vision, whatever - of all of these demons... I don't mean to be campy or silly, but there was a computer-animated movie out a while back. And I...gosh, can't even remember the...Oh - Kung Fu Panda! And the - if any of you saw that - had these gorilla, I mean these rhinoceros-looking guards, you know, they had armor on. Well, these demons looked just like that, man. They were like, upright rhinoceros-looking things with armor on!

And every step I'd take, this HUGE, curling-ball would come behind me.

Clare: an iron ball...

Ezekiel: It almost looked like one of those things you swing with iron balls and spikes - but this was just...these were just big balls with spikes! And I mean, HURLING. And when it would hit them, it would knock out bunches of them.

Clare: Huh! Of the demons?

Ezekiel: Yeah!

Clare: With every step that you took...

Ezekiel: I'm so used to... You're talking to the son of the son of the son of Thomas - doubting Thomas, you know? It's been my Achilles heel, is doubt. And when I start to see something, or it has been for a few years - I kinda brush it off, you know. "That's just my mind, or my head." Whatever. But I'd take another step.

Clare: Couldn't do that this time, it was too clear.

Ezekiel: I'd take another step. Take another step. It never went away. I'd take another step, there's another group of these guys and WHAM! This thing would come out of nowhere behind me and just obliterate them. And with each step I took, I mean, it made no sense at all. Every step I took I got stronger. I could feel it. And I can't tell you, I had tingling from head to toe. All I know is, with every step - I don't know, 24 steps from my room to the bed to here...Wow! The closer I got to the room - and Clare mentioned, I'd tried this so many times before. I'd go in, I'd pray, I'd turn on the equipment and get things ready...and wham! I'd get hit with one of...several of those abdominal convulsions-like things, those seizures. And they'd...I was out. I was down for hours, maybe two or three days at a time. And nights.

But not this time! And I gotta tell you, because of His grace, because of your prayers, because of your faith - when I didn't have faith of my own, you guys were like the ones that busted the hole in Peter's roof and let the man down in front of Jesus.

Clare: Yeah...

Ezekiel: I didn't have any faith of mine. I just had nothing - I was totally bankrupt. 30 years with the Lord and bankrupt. But you guys came along, made a hole, put me down in front of Jesus...

Clare: That's beautiful. Yeah... So, there was a...we were obviously under demonic attack. And for all you loving Satanists out there, God bless you!

Ezekiel: He really does love you guys.

Clare: lol...He does!

Ezekiel: And He's given us the grace to love you, too!

Clare: And He takes these things, the Lord takes these things and turns them around for good, because now we're learning about some of the tactics and techniques. As we're seeing into the spirit, He's showing us.

Ezekiel: And again, a lot of you guys know what it's like to lose your "purpose-driven life". And that brings me to this point: Obviously, I'm telling you about a life changing, amazing, powerful healing. I mean, off my death bed. Off my DEATH bed! I mean you're talking to kinda like Lazarus, man. I remember thinking, 'Wow. I almost feel like I'm born again...AGAIN!' Just like a fresh baby out of the womb.

Clare: And some of this, you know... people say Christians can't be cursed. Sorry! You're not right about that. They can be cursed. And whether the Lord allows them to land or not... But here we're talking about a death curse, where the Lord directly raised you up in the face of that death curse. And angels blasted the demons that were trying to bring it on, because of your will to take a step here and take a step there.

And what I want to say about that, is that we are finding out more and more - what a righteous God we serve! We have no idea of some of the things that are sinful, that we're doing. We don't realize. God revealed to me my hidden sins, cleansed my hidden sins. And we don't realize how we open doors. This is what we're finding out more and more in the spiritual warfare, is that we open doors just without thinking. We don't realize that we're sinning and the effect that it has - maybe a sin of unbelief, or a sin of criticism or judgment. We just don't realize that. And so that allows a curse to land, because we sinned. And we're just now, the Lord is just now beginning to reveal to us a much higher standard of holiness than what we've been functioning at.

And this calls for a real amendment of life and repentance. And that's when the curses can't land. Although He does allow suffering, again, to deliver the Gospel into the hands of the lost, as a fast offering. He does allow it. So, it's a little bit of a mixed bag, but certainly we don't want to be opening doors by our own sin. Not only do we not want to open doors, but let's think about it. We're so in love with the Lord, we don't want to hurt Him. We don't want to hurt Him with the things that we do, or grieve the Holy Spirit.

So, these are things that we need to look at again.

Getting back to the narrative of what happened there, you felt that it was actually the warring angels that were assaulting these demons?

Ezekiel: It wasn't angels. It was God the Father Himself. I could feel Him, I could sense Him. You know, you've heard some of my past. Like a lot of you, never knew the love of a real father, just the hard...violence and abuse and all that stuff. But. So, I was a little shy (of God the Father). And Clare would tell me, "Honey, you've got to get to know Him. He's got the heart of a child! He's so innocent and pure and so beautiful!" And it just was like, bounced off my head. I had no point of reference.

And this past Spring, (I heard he's gone to be with the Lord now), Brendan Manning, who was a former active Franciscan priest, who ended up being laicized, getting married and going on and giving talks and things. It's an amazing story that he told. About how much the Father loves Jesus and Jesus loves the Father. I'll get back to that another time. But through that talk, I met Him! Yesterday I couldn't have told you anything, 'cause I felt like such a hypocrite...but, His love breaks through. His love breaks

through. And it was Daddy. His little boy that He's taken and swung me by the arms, Jesus on the other side of the River, like they're swinging me over the stream. And they're putting me in front of berry bushes - no thorns, you know. And this is some months back. And I had a little honeymoon with my REAL DADDY. I don't have any other name I can call Him. I understand "Abba". And another time for other things, beautiful stories and places He's taken me and things He's been.

Clare: Some of that is written in Chronicles of the Bride, too. Which is a free book online on our website, [Heartdwellers.org](http://Heartdwellers.org)

Ezekiel: A little bit, a little bit of that.

Clare: Coming up on the music, how that turned around. 'Cause we've been asking the prayer warriors to pray for your music.

Ezekiel: Right, right. So, with every step, every move... So, I pull the cover off the keyboard. Normally, I'd try to sit and pray and spend some time with the Lord. But you got hours and hours and hours to do that when you're "down". And this was time for Lazarus to come out of the tomb.

Clare: lol...time for ACTION!

Ezekiel: An author that we love, Lori Beth Jones, who wrote "Jesus, CEO" and following books - beautiful. In one of her books I think she said, "It's like Jesus came out of the tomb and went, (finger clicks, hands clap) TaDa!" lol!! And I thought about that, and I was quipping about that earlier tonight. And I felt like the Lord was saying, "Yeah - but it was WAY more than that!! But! There was part of that, too!"

So, I pulled the keyboard cover off, like I'd done countless days and nights before. Turn on the switches. Recorder console fires up. Keyboard fires up. My guitar's sitting right there in almost perfect tuning. And I started getting kinda tired, you know. And I thought, 'Wow - this is...well, 28, going into maybe 29 hours (of being awake) and I've still got my flesh. I'm thinking...you get in a habit of conditioning of well, she's down, or he's down - I need to go down. You get lazy!

Clare: Yeah..

Ezekiel: I got lazy! And oh my gosh! It's like He's teaching me, He's wiped the whole slate clean. This was not just a physical, amazing physical resurrection healing. This was an amazing, start-again, fresh, baby-skin...I mean, I feel like I'm in Kindergarden, learning all over again. And that's how I ever want to be! No wonder He said that, unless you become like a little child...

So, everything's fired up and I'm tired and want to go to bed. And I hear the Lord clearly. After MONTHS, I'm hearing Him clearly. I'm not hearing demons saying, "You're this, you're that...badum dadum dadah..." I'm hearing JESUS. God Himself. I'm hearing the Holy Spirit. I'm hearing Daddy. Clear - just like you and I talking, right here. And He seemed like someone in a grandstand, watching this Olympic event, and He was both the spectator and almost the Spartan in the middle of the Coliseum. You know, dueling it out at the same time.

And He would say, "Let's keep going."

Clare: And you told me you were tired. And I said, "Honey, you need to break through this." Because that's the demon of lethargy and laziness, tiredness...it comes on you, to stop you.

Ezekiel: Oh yeah! It didn't want to let go.

Clare: Yeah. And you just have to break through it, you have to keep going.

Ezekiel: I want to tell you, I knew of a pastor who said, "You know, I didn't believe in demons until I found out I HAD one." LOL! You know?

Clare: If you've got one, believe me, it's not the only one you have!

Ezekiel: Yeah... And I was a lot like Mary Magdalene, you know. And I'm sure, 30 years ago, He delivered me of more demons than you could shake a stick at - in and INSTANT. In an INSTANT - at two minutes 'till eight that night. I still hated Christians and everything to do with Christianity, church, religion, blechh! You know. I'm sorry, but that's the way it was. And I end up in this group of people, with some food. And they're praying and - you've heard it, if you've heard the past several months back, my testimony.

It was like He did that again! It almost felt - even though it took 10 minutes to get there - here it was into an hour, and I was getting tired... 29 hours... It felt instantaneous. It's amazing. It's like He said, when a woman in laboring to give birth, she groans in travail. But when she gives birth, she rejoices in the child that came forth and remembers not her pain. The first words out of my mouth were the Psalms. I mean, they were POURING out of me. I don't know the Psalms by memory! I've walked with the Lord for 30 years - yeah I know a lot of stuff by rote.

Clare: We know bits and pieces.

Ezekiel: Yeah - it's just pouring out of me! And the very first words were something along the lines of "You bring LIFE where there IS no life. You bring hope where there is no hope. You bring blessing where there's nothing but a curse." And on and on and on.

So...I looked up and... I write - like many of you. I write little cards to remind me. And I have this big 8 x 11 sheet of paper beside one of my vocal processor units, by the recording console. And it says: Come PLAY with Me. PLAY. Big words, big letters. Neon. PLAY. I never learned how to read or write music. Since I was probably 7 years old I've plucked around on little toy guitars and stuff, and I've always played by ear. And music was never work - it was always play. When I wrote that little card, that big sheet of paper - I was thinking of, you know, going off with the Lord. Skating, ice skating, you know. Riding horses, kick a soccer ball - whatever. I wasn't thinking music. But it's amazing how those words that the Lord gives you are like memorial stones. Like Jacob used to pile up and the Patriarchs, when the Lord would visit them. And they'd leave a memorial stone. Those words come back to you.

And just like the Scriptures, they'll catch you and hit you a totally, new, fresh way. And here it is. I'm tired, want to go to bed, "Let's keep going...PLAY with Me." Here's the Lord... And I'm just seeing Him, up on His haunches almost, almost kind of squatting up out of His seat in these Coliseum kind of stands, watching the contest that is going on. And yet, He's down there, almost like a gladiator, going after masses and masses of Spartan gladiator-mongrels.

Clare: Demons...

Ezekiel: Just ...yeah.

Clare: You saw this in the spirit, when you were picking up your guitar, or..?

Ezekiel: While I was sitting right there at the keyboard and getting ready to pick up the guitar. This happened like, three times throughout the next 12 hours. What's 12 and 28...40. Isn't that

interesting? And He's going at it, you know? And when He would do that, I'd just fill up with air again. I'd just be re-inflated and re-enlivened, quickened and boom!

Clare: When He did what?

Ezekiel: When He would say, "Let's keep going!" And He's on His haunches and He's up out of His - He's watching a contest. But the third time that happened, into almost probably the 10th hour of this breakthrough. We're going on 40 hours. Wow. It's like an Odyssey. The third time this happened, and He said, "Let's keep going." And it was almost like, part of me was like, "Lord! This is amazing - but You gotta be kidding me! I'm only flesh and human! I mean - this is great, but You're going to have to enlarge my head and my body or something. I'm having trouble keeping up!"

And He looked at me, with a very...very intentional, loving, excited, passionate smile...and He said - both fists clenched - and He said, "We're gonna TAKE these guys! We're gonna take 'em down, every single one of them. We're gonna give 'em back every, single thing that they deserve and we're gonna TAKE BACK everything they've stolen. And I'm gonna multiply it. Now, let's keep going!"

Clare: Wow!

Ezekiel: Whoa! That was all I needed, that's all I needed. Here we go, boy, we're into the last two hours. I didn't know it, I didn't know how long this was going to take. I used to be able to just sit down, write a song, zip it out - play a tune, put the words, record it - and I could be done in 20 minutes, sometimes.

Clare: Yeah, and I'd labor for three weeks over a song, and he'd have it down in 20 minutes!

Ezekiel: There's so many things that are different within these past few hours, in that I can look at these fruits that are coming up now. I sound excited, because I am! Oh, my gosh, I was DEAD! I'm ALIVE! We're into, probably the 10th hour of this thing. And I'm thinking - yeah, I've been sitting here a while, and all these Psalms are pouring out of me, praise and you name it. Like I had 12 different channels goin' on in my head, and they were all Lord. Psalms, Praise, old songs, new songs - you name it.

And I'm sitting here with this plethora in front of me, and a melody came to me. I just happened to have my guitar and kind of a strange - what we call "open tuning," it's not a standard tuning - you tune it to something that sounds pretty. And then when you put your fingers on different places on the strings, it just sounds prettier. It's nice! Nice!

Clare: Of course, we're dying to hear this song...

Ezekiel: Oh my...yeah. Sorry.. Well, I wanna tell ya, He's doing a new thing. A while ago I heard so clearly, "Look on, you scoffers, and be amazed! I'm doing a new thing."

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### When Giving Up is NOT an Option, Part 3

August 25, 2016

Ezekiel: A while ago, I heard so clearly, "Look on, you Scoffers and be amazed! I'm doing a new thing!"

You know, here a lot of us are getting past middle age, getting into what are supposed to be our "golden years", our senior years, whatever. Forget it! That's nonsense, man. I'd see people older than me, just full of fire and I just couldn't understand it, you know? "Boy, this is it - I've seen it all, done it all. Gonna coast on out!"

Clare: Well, but then the golden years thing is...the last wine that was served was better than the first!

Ezekiel: I can guarantee, I have NO idea what's gonna happen. This is day one!

Clare: This is an army, you know, out there that we're talking to, the Heartdwellers. This is an army of people who are in love with the Lord. And some of them have given up, because they're...like you said, they're just tired of suffering, they're tired of pain, or they've been talked down by the devil telling them, "You're too old, this will never work." And that's why I freely tell people, "Hey, I'm 70 years old and I'm having the best time of my life! Finally!" I wasted many years. If He can get this body going. And He keeps renewing my body.

Ezekiel: She's amazing!

Clare: Things'll come after me, body problems will happen - and the Lord will turn around and just kick them right out again.

So, you ended up writing a song, right? A pretty melody came up.

Ezekiel: The 10th hour. There's a melody, this beautiful something on a steel string guitar with harmonics...just stuff that a really GOOD, maybe a trained, classical musician would do. It's just coming out of my, every fiber in me.

Clare: And your fingers weren't even...

Ezekiel: Calloused.

Clare: Calloused over.

Ezekiel: I've got... I've had calloused fingers for, oh I can't - as many years as I'm alive almost, on the tips of my fingers. (now) I have BABY skin here. You're talking about steel string, tight steel string guitar. No pain! I played that thing like...lol!

Clare: I was amazed! Really - 'cause you told me that you'd been playing and I thought, 'With those fingers?'

Ezekiel: I mean, it just...

Clare: He turns everything to good.

Ezekiel: Just what He said - He took back everything the devil stole and He multiplied it. This is day 1, you know. The adventure continues. I have no idea what's going to come up and out. One of the fruits in my life, right now, I can see is I'm not in a hurry to "get it done, get it quick, badoom!" I used to tell Clare, "My head burns when I sing, I don't know why. It feels..."

Clare: And I told him, you're pushing. And all you need to do is let the sound come out.

Ezekiel: Yeah...

Clare: It's a whole different way of...

Ezekiel: Yeah. And so I'm sitting there going, Wow! I've been here for 12 hours and I'm just now got the first track of the kind of chords and flowing, you know. Whatever was on the guitar there. It was like, that was good enough. There was such a peace, the Lord was so soft. Man, I got...I can't tell you how good it is to see Him smile and laugh tonight! He had tears in His eyes of laughter and rejoicing. I had begun to feel like I was almost His enemy! I knew, I could FEEL that there was a distance, there was a gap - there was...something was getting further away.

And you know what He told me? He said, "I've wanted to talk to you as much as you've wanted to hear from Me. There's so many things I wanted to tell you and show you, but you just weren't ready. I had to open you up and clean you out to the bottom of the bottom of the shell of the bare minimum." I saw a tree cut down, just like in the Scriptures, to the trunk. And then a shoot coming up, a fresh shoot.

And I remember at one point, this was hours ago, I'm saying once again, "Lord, can You make my head bigger...this is a LOT to keep up with!" 'Cause He seemed almost more talkative than what I'm used to. And when I asked Him that, He kinda put His hands together in front of Him, He kinda stepped back...it's like "It's okay. It's all right... I can't do it!" lol!! And He takes two steps forward and He's right back, just right there with me, ya know. He's like..."I'm over flowing like YOU are! I have LONGED for this moment. I've WAITED for this moment! I HAD to do this. I had to allow that kind of what seemed to be harsh - love. Tough love."

Clare: Searing conviction.

Ezekiel: Oh...I'm telling you. "I had to. I had to be sure there was not a speck or particle of you there anymore. So I could pour Myself back into you." And I can't tell you, it's been like a rocket ride ever since. I don't know how many hours I've slept today - not a lot! Yeah, it's my first thought, too, mhm. I can hear some of you guys: "Yep. He's on a manic high, you watch. Two or three days later, and he's gonna crash..." And I started to hear, I thought, 'Man, my wife is going think he's really, you know. He's loopin'. He's gonna crash.' And I didn't even let the thought, something in me rose up and caught that thought before it ever formed fully, and said, "NO. No way. I am NOT going to lose this. I'm NOT giving it up." And I've been praying and asking the Lord, you know. We DO need to ask. "Lord, please. Give me Your faith. Your strength. Your everything." And I tell Him all the time, "You're GOD. You can do anything!"

And He has. Because of His goodness, His love, His grace and YOUR prayers, your fastings. Your offering of your joys and sorrows, happiness, suffering. Everything you guys have poured in a BIG family. And you've all put your heart and soul into Him, and into each other - into us and this wonderful thing He's doing all over the world with the Body.

Clare: Amen!

So, I think what we've had, really, is a breakthrough from self-pity and laziness. "So it hurts? So keep going. So it's hard - keep going. So you're tired? Keep going." It's like, you'll get to rest and you'll get to recover, and God will fill you, refill you as you pour yourself out for Him. The thing is, you just don't yield to the enemy. 'Cause the enemy wants to stop you.

And that's the issue here. That's exactly what's going on. Through our OWN fault, we back off sometimes. We get lazy, we get tired. We give in to self-pity and whatever. And that opens the door for the enemy. And when I say it opens a door for the enemy, what I'm talking about is - in Christian

ministry, you have enemies. You have Satanists and other people who deliberately attack a ministry and cause sickness or division or strife. Of course, if you're walking in perfect virtue they can't do that - but who among us is walking in perfect virtue 100% of the time??

So, what happens? So, the door gets opened and the Lord allows that curse to land. He permits it. And it's measured, because they can't do any more harm to us than what He allows, because He's still in control. And when that happens, we begin to wake up and we say, "Wait a minute. Why is this happening to me? What's gone wrong here? What's going on?"

Sometimes it's an offering, a Simon's Cross. And other times it's a correction from God. And we knew this was a correction, 'cause we kept getting God's Correction in Bible Promises. We just weren't sure what it was for. And what the enemy was trying to get to was a base-line attitude of "This is just too hard, I'm giving up! I'm just not going to do it." And yet, we want to do it. We want to do everything the Lord wants us to do, but we have our flesh to contend with. When we give in to our flesh and we back off, then the Lord comes in and says, "I know this soul. I know this soul really does want to do this. So I'm going to help them get control of themselves, and wake up to the possibilities." And that's when He comes in and...you know... I can't tell you how many illnesses the Lord has cured me of because He wants me to keep going in ministry. I mean - Ezekiel could have been dead, and He would have raised him from the dead, because He needs him to complete this ministry.

So, ultimately, the Lord is in control. And I think what the Lord was so overjoyed about, and that He was so happy about in the spirit - to just see Him dancing for joy, as the Scriptures say - the Lord dances over us with shouts of joy. And His joy was that Ezekiel had confronted something in him that was preventing him from having the fullness that he needed in ministry. Now he's taken it on, he's confronted it and he wants to move forward.

And me, too. I confront my laziness as well.

We don't have much time. I know you've all heard that so many times, you're sick of it. But the point is, we want to make the time count. When the Lord comes, we want to hear Him say, "Well done, My good and faithful servant. Enter into your Master's joy!" And this will happen when we respond to His correction and then we trust Him in faith to cure us, or to heal us of whatever it was that came against us. He takes EVERYTHING. Everything evil, wicked and hard that the enemy throws at us, He takes it and He turns it around to something good and beautiful. It's just wonderful!

Just as He permitted the Lord's physical body to be killed, just so He could raise it up again. And keep on going...

So, there's no way that you can lose if you obey Him. No matter what you have to go through, there's no way that the Kingdom of God is going to suffer, because the Lord will turn it around to good. As one of the church Father's said, "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." And there's always that resurrection power that follows on the heels of suffering.

So, the Lord bless you all, dear Heartdwellers. And look forward to what the Lord has for you, for at least the next three years. He's gonna break out with some wonderful ministries. Whatever condition you're in right now, I want you to have a lot of hope, because there's so much that He wants to do with those vessels that... Let's just say, you're on your death bed. And you still want to serve Him. Well, He can turn that around, too. If you totally put your trust in Him, He can turn it right around and get you back up on your feet again, serving Him.

So don't give up! Refuse to give up! Continue to believe and confess the Scriptures. And pray in the spirit and have other people pray in the spirit over you. Just watch and see what that faith will do.

You've got to purpose in your heart, you're NOT going to lay down and give up. You're not going to do it - it's not an option! You're got to purpose that in your heart and get to that rock bottom place where you're just convicted that there's no way you're going to give up! And somehow the Lord will give you the strength to get up and keep walking.

Ezekiel: I told Clare I had no idea. I would say that over and over again yesterday. I had no idea what people were really going through like this.

Clare: Yeah, we have a lot of people that are going through different kinds of suffering, but still. It's a kind of crushing defeat that makes you want to give up.

Ezekiel: But there's something about powder. Being broken down into powder. I used to mess with powder, where you've got a pot and it's got a loose lip, or it's weird. And you break it down. And if it's dried, you have to crush it, and powder it and re-hydrate it and make it again. So, the Scriptures say, "Jesus learned obedience through the suffering He endured." There's something about the crucible of humiliation, and as the Scriptures say: "The crucible of suffering." - that is so amazing on the other side.

Clare: All the glory to the Lord.

Ezekiel/Clare: Amen.