Exalted without faithfulness

1 Cor 4:2. Moreover, or in addition. Paul here gives the major qualification of a servant of God, particularly a minister: faithfulness to his Master. The context of this passage includes faithfulness to one’s Master, but primarily it is speaking of faithfully delivering the message contained in the mysteries of God. Faithfulness in this area will create contention as it did when Paul and Peter were faithful stewards of the mysteries. As church and society in general depart from this qualification of faithfulness, they self-destruct.

Charles Hodges, writing well over a hundred years ago, said: “The great thing required of them [God’s people] is fidelity.” And that fidelity is to the Lord and His word, not to the people or to one’s self. Thus, “Be true to thyself,” is false.

Undoubtedly, faithfulness is THE GREATEST requirement in God’s word with all others subservient to it. God establishes the qualifications (personal gifts, disciplines and characteristics) and responsibilities (work and actions) of His ministers. Godly faithfulness follows God’s word in every area; faithfulness goes far enough and does not attempt to go farther than does God, ie. more holy than God (Phariseeism).

Paul had spent the first three chapters of 1 Corinthians exposing the evil of depending upon worldly wisdom. Then in chapter four, he counters the false idea of the world (ie. wisdom and knowledge qualifies one for God’s service), with the major qualification of the Lord: faithfulness.

God’s definition of qualification for service is as contrary to the world’s definition of qualification as any one thing can be. The world’s idea of qualification for anything is education, knowledge (even about evil, ie. drug & sex-education), wisdom and learning. Our society is in serious trouble because knowledge and learning have replaced faithfulness to a task as the qualification for advancement. Furthermore, service is on extremely few person’s minds; everyone desires to be a leader. Where are the servants?

- The Business world

The business world has departed from faithfulness to an assigned task as the major qualification for the promotion of individuals. As a result, there are people on leadership positions who never had to prove themselves faithful in doing the actual job which they are responsible to oversee. (How can one instruct another how to do a job which one has never done?)

Thus, the sad result is a business world that is unable to produce. The ones who worked their way up from within the ranks, so to speak, are being pushed out and/or are passing off the scene.

Among our group, we have several people who work for a couple major world-wide companies. Many times our folks feel as though they are going around in circles because the ‘white collar’ employees are in their positions of authority due to their college degrees rather than their abilities and faithfulness in their job. Secondly, there was an article in the Inpls Star, 11/29/91, about the US Forestry service not hiring or promoting any males, only females. Thus, we see in both instances that neither skill nor faithfulness is a cause for promotion in the work place.

Family businesses are an example: a man starts a business and it becomes highly successful because he faithfully looked after the small things. Then he sends his children to college to learn to take over the business. Many times the children return feeling they are now qualified to run the business because they have the education, but they are little more than a shadow of their parent’s ability in the business. They sought a short cut to leadership through schooling rather than through working their way up.

- The Religious world

Churches are being devastated because the qualification for “leadership” is no longer faithfulness to assigned tasks over an extended period of time; rather, it is knowledge and worldly wisdom.

I have known of several young people who desired to be active in Christian work some day, so they pursued a higher education (which is a commendable goal). The problem is that when opportunities to be faithful and active in Christian work in simple things
would arise, they would not get involved unless required by their educational institution. In fact, even though some of these young people found it difficult to be faithful in simple things like church attendance, there were "Christian ministries" waiting in line to "hire" them upon graduation with good marks.

Is it any wonder that Christianity is in such a state today? Not until this evil is corrected, and these 'ministries' make their primary staff requirement that a man be found faithful, can we expect any kind of movement in the hearts of those influenced by these "Christian ministries."

Furthermore, the above is not unique. These people, both individuals and ministries, are missing God's most important qualification of all, that a man be found faithful in the small insignificant things, especially if no one is watching. If faithfulness by an individual is conditioned upon public recognition or coercion, then he is serving man and not God. Moreover, he is not depending upon the Lord to lift him up; rather, he is depending on man to exalt him. (Cf. Ja 4:10)

Paul gives us another key point, found faithful: implied discovery. Perhaps the faithful person was hidden from view, and when stumbled upon, he was discovered faithful. Found faithful could speak of surprise on the part of the one who found him faithful; it would speak of those who watched him in all situations and circumstances and found that he was faithful in the big and small things, good and bad times, and in public and private; it speaks of prolonged faithfulness on the part of the person, maybe many years of self-discipline and obeying the law-word of God; it does not speak of sinlessness, but faithfulness to the law of humility, confession, restitution and repentance.

- Increased work

Luke 17:1-10, increased faith is identified as increased faithfulness in doing our Master's revealed will in the most demanding circumstances, especially when no one is watching or encouraging us.

Luke 16:10-13, gives a startling implication, and this implication is one of the most common of the Lord's teachings: faithfulness in the small areas results in larger areas of responsibility. Consider this: "If a person is exalted or given a place of authority without faithfulness in the small things, was it God that exalted him? -- Will God operate contrary to His revealed word? -- Are there exceptions to what He has established in His truth? -- Does God lead people into 'full time work' who are not faithful in the small things?" I think not.

Paul is quite clear in identifying that the primary qualification of a servant or steward of God (minister especially) is faithfulness to God and His word; faithfulness in the small things; faithfulness in every thing. Faithfulness applies to young people and old, to rich and poor, to the highly intelligent and the simple; there are no exceptions and it even works for the unsaved. This is God's established truth which will never pass away or be avoided by anyone. (Yea, let God be true, and every man a liar.)

The faithful steward of God will be found faithful in at least five areas:

- Five areas

1) He will not be arrogant: he will be willing to do the least of things. He will not wait for the Lord to send something his way which he feels fits his qualifications; rather, he will take advantage of any presented opportunity for service to the Lord, Matthew 10:42; 25:31-46 (the Lord tells us that our love for Him is shown by our faithfulness in small matters: seeing and doing the simple things for others).

Thus, anyone can be a faithful steward of God because the most lowly of tasks in man's eyes are very important in God's eyes. A simple word of encouragement from us to another who might be having a difficult time is like giving him a cool drink on a hot day. Every action will be rewarded, 2 Cor 5:10. Fixing a window at the church or for a Christian brother, helping put up a building, painting, mowing the grass, even sweeping a floor, if it is done because of Christ, we will not lose our reward. Furthermore, it doesn't necessarily have to be done for another Christian. In our Lord's illustration, the work was for someone in prison, yet it was done in the name of Christ, therefore, for Christ.

I know of a teenage girl who saw a well dressed elderly man sitting alone in a restaurant for whom she wanted to do something. At first, she wanted to go talk to him, but then she decided to quietly pay for his lunch from her own money, saying "actions speak louder than words." She talked to the waitress who slipped the check away from the man, and then the girl, unknown to the man, paid the bill for the man. It was done in the name of Christ and has His reward attached to it.

Remember the laymen in Acts 6? The implication is that Stephen and the other men, whom we identify as the first deacons, counted it a privilege to do the most menial tasks in the new church. The result was that the Lord provided Stephen with the opportunity to preach one of the greatest sermons in the history of the Church, as well as to have his name go down as the first martyr for the cause of Christ.

2) The faithful steward will know that what he has is from the Lord, 1 Cor. 4:7. This should be a humbling thought. Everyone has the same standard, faithfulness, but not everyone has the same responsibilities to be faithful over.

3) The faithful steward will continue in the most difficult tasks which come his way whether he has human encouragement or not. But let us hasten to add, honor should be given where honor is due, Rom. 13:7. Although the one who owes the honor would be sinning for not giving due honor, the faithful steward will be faithful regardless of whether or not that other person is faithfully honoring him.

4) The faithful steward will be proficient in the word of God. He knows that he is not speaking for himself, but for the Lord; therefore, he either knows or is seeking to know what the Lord says about everything, 2 Cor. 5:20.

His actions, because he is acting under the direction of Another, the Lord according to His word, will be restricted to his Master's instructions. Moreover, he will be bold, knowing that he is acting in the place of his Master.
5) The faithful steward will be faithful primarily in the secret things because he realizes that it is the Lord Christ whom he is serving. The faithful will be faithful, not because they are being graded by others, but because they are being graded by God.

Abraham’s steward is a perfect example of the faithful steward which every child of God should be. Notice Luke 16:12: the natural man will come to us and say, "What is this in for yourself? Since you will not get anything, why be faithful?" The Lord plainly tells us that if we expect to ever have anything of our own from Him to be faithful over, we must first be faithful over what belongs to someone else and primarily over what is His.

This thought brings us back to this point: if a person is given areas of responsibility without showing himself faithfully responsible over what belongs to someone else, where did that ‘promotion’ come from? If something is accomplished apart from God’s way, how was it accomplished? -- In the flesh? In the power of the enemy?

- Spiritual service!

Meyer’s 1882 statement here for 1 Cor. 4:2, is sadly enlightening: "Luke vii.42, xvi.10ff.; Matt. xxv.21 ff.; Eph. vi.21, al. The summing up of the duties of spiritual service." (Meyer’s Commentary on the New Testament. Emph added.) With this short statement he sums up the Christian thinking of our day.

Notice that Meyer implies that the only faithfulness which is required by God is in the area of spiritual service. His statement reveals to us the root of the problem. He implies that there are two types of normal service for the child of God, i.e. spiritual and unspiritual. Such thinking is the spirit of anti-Christ at work, and is dealt with by Paul in 1 Cor. 10:31. Every activity for a child of God is spiritual and must be viewed as such.

(I have been involved in churches for around 25 years now. It has not been and is not unusual to confront individuals who believe that an activity is not spiritual unless it contains a time of preaching. This idea is the logical conclusion of the doctrine of spiritual service. We must keep foremost in our mind that all activity is either spiritual or sinful; it is either with God (sacred), or without God (secular). If it takes preaching to make an activity spiritual, even in our own minds, then we should not be involved in it. We must rebuild our thinking according to the Word of God.)

- Conclusion

In conclusion, Paul is only summing up the total duty of man: faithfulness to God and His command-word in every area of life, thought and action. He spoke nothing different than what was already well established, Ecc 12:13, 13; Deut 10:12, 13.

Mashed Potato Christians

Exodus 5:20-23.

Moses presented God’s word to Pharaoh, which did not impress Pharaoh in the least. Pharaoh’s response was to increase Israel’s burden, and the taskmasters beat the Israelite officers when Israel could not fulfill the added burden. The officers went before Pharaoh to plead their cause. Pharaoh heard them out, but rather than easing their burdens, Pharaoh, contrary to obvious facts, said that the people were lazy.

Evidently Moses and Aaron had accompanied the officers to Pharaoh but waited outside the throne room. When the officers departed Pharaoh’s presence, they looked at both Moses and Aaron and cursed them in the name of the Lord. The officers laid two charges at their feet: 1) rather than improving their lot before Pharaoh, Moses and Aaron had only made matters worse; in fact, they had made Israel to stink before Pharaoh and 2) Moses and Aaron had given Pharaoh an excuse to kill them. Moses and Aaron had promised Israel release from bondage, but rather than release, they had only increased their bondage.

Pharaoh’s plan to destroy any leadership possibilities of Moses and Aaron by turning Israel against them worked: Israel cursed Moses and Aaron.

These few concluding verses of Moses and Aaron’s first exchange with Pharaoh and Israel’s response gives us several interesting points:

1) The Israelite officer’s response to Moses, v. 21, shows us that people, especially God’s people, want effortless, painless and instant results.

- An illustration

Some time ago, I was contacted by a candidate from a neighboring county who was challenging, on an anti-county-wide zoning platform, an incumbent commissioner in their ‘92 primary. He called for advice because the Lord has given us some good victories in our county, so I pointed out that a group he was associated with had missed a good opportunity several years ago. They gathered many names on petitions to successfully stop zoning in their county, but unfortunately, they did not follow through with what they had started; they did not keep in touch with those who sided with them, forcing them to start all over again from scratch.

On the other hand, when we saw the danger of county-wide zoning in our area four or five years ago, not knowing what else to do, we did what we had seen their group do with petitions. We saturated a few of our county’s RDs with information about, and petitions against, zoning. We attempted to get the "Christian community" involved by sending to our county’s 55 churches excerpts about zoning fights from "The Briefcase" (David Gibbs’ mailing), but only three responded with signed petitions. Other than these returned petitions, the Christian community ignored us.

Even though the Christian community as a whole would not get involved, a dozen or so unsaved people, with a sprinkling of Christians, did see and understand the issue. Not only did they return the petitions, but they were willing to invest their time and money in attending council meetings and helping meet postage expense for continued effort on our part. We were able to place sufficient pressure on the council with petitions and appearances at their meetings to stop their efforts at county-wide zoning. Whereas the neighbouring county
defeated zoning with petitions and appearances (they did no mailings) and let it drop after their successful effort, we kept in touch with the 10 or so people who showed special interest in the issue. We then added to the basic group a few at a time. (There are only about 14,000 registered voters in our county; therefore, a small group can have an oversized influence.)

People used to ask of us, "Who are you?" when we would ask candidates something; now they contemptuously say, "You mean that group up in Linden?" A 14 year incumbent commissioner who was beaten in the 92 primary told the man who beat him, "I guess I should have joined that .... preacher's group over in Linden." The man who beat him was one of the original 10 who returned a petition. Furthermore, the successful challenger against the 20 year incumbent for the second commissioner's seat stood strongly against us at our first appearance against zoning 5 years ago, but before the '92 primary, he switched sides and stood firmly with us.

All of that says this: human nature (pride) dispises starting at the bottom with just a few; rather, it says that if you cannot do something in a big way, then there is no point in persuing it at all. [What the Lord is doing now with the Salvation booklets and this paper you are reading, The Biblical Examiner, started as just a few books or ideas in '85.]

- Microwave Mentality

So what is our point? Christians particularly seem to believe that if they cannot start at the top, then there is no need to proceed. It appears that most Christians are not interested in any promises of God which cannot be claimed immediately. Extremely few people are willing to pursue a course of action which, in their opinion, does not promise instant results. We could call this the "Instant Mashed Potato" or the "Microwave" mentality. On the other hand, the wicked gleefully start with only a few people and add long-range plans. The result is that they seem to have conquered the world for evil.

To the Mashed Potato Christians, omnipotence means that the Lord will move on their command. Yes, they believe in a Sovereign All-powerful God, but they see Him as One Who will fulfill all of His promises immediately at their request. When He does not move according to their timetable and in the manner which they feel He should, then many times they are ready to turn their backs upon Him. This quick departure is closely connected with the instant salvation associated with the "Pray this Prayer" mentality.

2) Notice how quickly the Israelite officers turned on the man of God. Many times it does not take much to turn God's people (particularly the Mashed Potato Christians) against God and His man.

Just a few days previously, they had hugged Moses' neck and told him how glad they were that the Lord had sent him to them with His word; they had praised God for sending their promised deliverance from bondage by Moses, 4:30. Now they were cursing Moses in the name of the Lord: "The Lord look.. and judge." "Things are not going as we expected and as we understood you to promise," they tell Moses, "You delivered a false message and gave us a false hope.

Observe: One of the saddest things in any pastor's ministry is the short memory of God's people. Although my former pastor used to tell me of this situation (4:31 & 5:21) in the heart of God's people, I believed it not until I experienced it. I am becoming cautious of people who profess undying love for their pastor. Many of the very people who profess the most love will turn the farthest from the one they profess to love. I have no doubt that if possible the people of Ex 5:21 would have found another church or another pastor for their church.

3) Their faith in, and worship of, the Lord was not only short lived, but it was conditioned upon God's message corresponding to their desires and upon the Lord fulfilling their expectations. The people believed that the Lord would release them from their bondage, so they worshipped God, 4:31. The promise of God was quickly and easily abandoned when things did not meet their expectations.

- Conditional faith

Their faith in God's promises was conditioned upon their circumstances; therefore, it was not real. True faith would have shared their concerns with Moses, but the major doubts and complaints about their distressed condition would have been to the Lord, Philippians chapter 4 (v.6).

Observe: We say that we fear God, and we expect the pagans to fear God. They do not have the same reverence for Him as we do, and we are greatly disappointed. Sad to say, we see here that God's people were very short on faith. Is it any wonder that Pharaoh had no faith?

Note that Israel appears to be only one step ahead of Pharaoh in their unbelief. Moses spoke once to Israel and they believed, 4:31. Moses spoke once to Pharaoh and he did not believe, 5:2. As soon as Pharaoh responded in unbelief, Israel turned from their belief. We could almost put these words in Israel's mouth, "Who is the Lord that we should believe you and Him," 5:21. Though they did not say this, they sure cursed Moses in the name of the Lord. Obviously, Israel feared God little more than did Pharaoh. Israel's faith was not an active faith, James 2:26.

4) Their corrupt faith not only demanded instant and easy deliverance, but also victory without humility. Typically, any trial of this generation's faith brought about rebellion against Moses and, consequently, against God. (Cf. 1 Sam 8:7; 1 Pet 1:7; 5:5,6; Ja 4:6-10. Their rebellion cost them the promised rest, Heb 3 & 4:1-3.)

In addition, Israel took out their disappointment with God upon God's man.

5) In their opinion, the promised deliverance was to be fulfilled in ease and luxury.

They expected an easy solution to a very difficult situation. They saw God's promised intervention as a promise of easy salvation from extremely oppressive bondage; they understood the word of God (4:30) to say that all their problems were over; they expected deliverance without effort, discipline or suffering on their part; they expected deliverance without God's judgment against sin, either Egypt or their's; and they expected a supernatural carrying away on flowery beds of ease from all the problems, difficulties and hard labor of life. Based
upon their understanding of Moses’ words, they did not expect Pharaoh’s evil response. They heard Moses say what they wanted to hear and then tried to hold Moses accountable for what they heard.

Observe: Misinterpretation of God’s word has led to false hopes in God’s people throughout the ages. False hope says: A) God will intervene in a “painless, strainless” way against today’s oppressive Pharaohs. B) God will provide supernatural deliverance for His people from the oppressive powers of this present age without any judgment against sin in the congregation of the Lord or against the oppressive Pharaohs. C) God will supernaturally deliver with neither diligence for God on their part, personal distress, or worldly disgrace accompanied by departure from worldly pleasures. Fallen nature desires deliverance from difficulty (Egypt) and victory over the pagans with no self-effort or at least minimal effort; it desires an easy salvation with no judgment.

Israel, including Moses, misinterpreted the promise of God as saying that all Moses and Aaron had to do was present the word of God to Pharaoh who then, trembling and shaking, would gladly release them. When he did not respond according to their expectation, God’s people turned against God’s man and hence against God.

6) Vs. 22-23, Moses expected easy deliverance even though he knew better, 4:21. He: A) returned unto the Lord, B) considered the response by Pharaoh evil treatment, C) expressed his doubts and questions his calling, and D) placed the blame upon the Lord for Pharaoh’s evil response: neither hast thou...

Observe:

A) Even though Moses felt the Lord had failed to keep His promise, he took his complaint to the Lord and not to man. Expressing our doubts about God’s promises before people will get us in trouble with the Lord; expressing our doubts before God will allow Him to increase our faith.

B) What men may feel is evil treatment by the Lord is actually God working His much higher purpose for our good and for His Kingdom’s sake, Romans 8:28.

C) We would probably say in this situation: “Lord, I told you this would happen back at the bush, but You sent me anyway. Now what?” But the Lord, knowing man’s frame and that he is but dust, encouraged Moses by giving him fresh assurance of His call and assuring Moses that He will accomplish His plan through him, 6:1. (How many times have we needed new fresh assurance, for without it we would surely perish, Lam 3:22-26.)

D) If this great man Moses had doubts, think of the problems we can expect. How many times have we thought the same thing: “Lord, this is not according to the promise that I feel you have given to me.”? Obviously, we give up too easily. But if we read ahead to the next chapter, v. 1, we see that the Lord does not rebuke Moses for his shortness of faith; rather, the Lord says, “Now I can show Myself strong.”

As Moses’ responsibility increased, the Lord’s revelation of Himself to Moses increased, Exodus 6:1-8. As needed in their service to God, the Lord increases the faith of His faithful servants by giving them increased revelation of Himself from His word, Romans 10:17. (Note that in 2 Pet 3:16-18, growth in the knowledge of, and obedience to, the word of God protects one from the error of the wicked.)

7) Finally, God delivers His people in spite of themselves. He did not deliver them for any good on their part (Moses later told them that they were rebels from the first day he met them). The Lord delivered them because of his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob, 2:24. (Cf. De 7:7-11 ["If," says Moses, "He kept His word for good to deliver you, He will surely keep His word to judge your sin"]; 9:4ff.)

We see from this exchange between Moses and Israel’s officers that deliverance will come for God’s people; God’s people will be delivered into God’s promises to Abraham (cf. Gal 3:29). But before this happens, there will be difficult days of plagues ahead.

As the ungodly Pharaoh’s of our day stand against the Lord and His Christ, thus against His people on earth, doing all they can to stamp out Christianity, we can rest assured that the Lord will show Himself strong. The more tyrannical the Pharaoh’s of our day, the more glorious the triumph of God. Both the ungodly Pharaohs and faithless covenant-people will know that it was indeed the hand of the Lord that delivered His people.

My, how thankful I am for the grace and mercy of God. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust, Psalms 103:13, 14. He works with us where we are to bring us to where we ought to be, and, more often than not, in spite of ourselves, Romans 9:16.

The Hillary factor

Hillary Clinton’s high-horsepower ambition may yet drive her to stay at home, bake cookies, have teas and stick by her man like Tammy Wynette, but don’t count on it.

William McGurn, Washington bureau chief of national Review, says "smart Democrats" privately are calling her "the Wilhelmina Horton" of the 1992 presidential campaign.

In an article in the latest American Spectator, Daniel Wattenberg notes that her labours for the left-wing Children’s Defense Fund are well-known.

Wattenberg details her record on the Legal Services Corp. and grants approved under her chairmanship by the New World Foundation, including $20,000 to the pro-Sandinista Christic Institute, $5,000 to the "education fund" of the Salvadoran communist front CISPE, $15,000 to the National Lawyers Guild, which was organized in the 1930s as an adjunct of the Americans Communist Party, and many, many others, among them radical lawyer William Kunstler’s Center for Constitutional Studies.

McGurn commented: "This is the same woman who helped vet Gov. Clinton’s choice for judicial appointments in Arkansas and would presumable do the same on the national level once in the White House."
Many conservative Democrats are not very enthusiastic about Clinton, McGurn added. Southern Democrats in particular "point out that Jimmy Carter was much less liberal than his administration became, and much more conservative than Bill Clinton."

He wrote: "Hillary Clinton's activism threatens her husband's candidacy by linking it to a class of people who are not just indifferent but hostile to Middle America." Middle Americans might want to keep that in mind.

The Indianapolis Star, 7/29/92.

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**Gleanings**

The following is gleaned from the August 92 McAlvany Intelligence Advisor.

"#1) While the world's eyes are focused on the civil war between Serbia and Bosnia in the former Yugoslavia; on Bush/Un threats to attack Saddam Hussein; and on the bizarre U.S. presidential campaigns; the crackdown against anti-communists in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia has begun. Eduard Shevardnadze (the former KGB Chief in the Republic of Georgia and now President of Georgia) announced on August 12 that his government was cracking down (i.e., declaring war) on the supporters of former President Zviad Gamsakhurdia (who are the anti-communist forces in Georgia). The Red Army and KGB will be used against the anti-communists, which MIA and other writers and intelligence sources have long been anticipating. It will not be portrayed as such in the Western media.

#2) On 8/13/92, three top Regan Administration officials testified before the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs that America did indeed leave POWs behind in Vietnam in 1973 and that the U.S. government knew about it. 2,266 Americans were unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. For two decades, the U.S. government has participated in a massive coverup of these deserted POWs, including the Nixon, Ford, Carter, Regan, and Bush Administrations.

One of the Reagan officials named Childress, a member of Reagan's National Security Council staff, suggested in testimony before the Senate Committee that: "Americans may have survived into the 1980s"; and alluded to an offer made by Vietnam through a third country for the release of Americans in return for development aid. Senator John Kerry (D-MA) (a fellow Bonesman of Bush's) immediately cut off further discussion and moved the Senate panel to a closed Door session. Reports have been surfacing for several years about Vietnamese overtures to trace U.S. POWs for aid, and have been systematically squelched by the government.

- **Other gleanings**

Why did Perot drop out? reason # 3) Perot knows that a depression is coming and doesn't want to be caught holding the bag - Quoted the Seattle Times (7/23/92), Perot predicted a major depression right around the corner, an end of the American dream, and said: "If we have an economic catastrophe, tens of millions of ordinary people, of the type that signed petitions, will be devastated. And it'll probably take us 20 years to recover."

Describing America on the edge of a severe depression, Perot said: "A severe depression would see the collapse of the nation's banks and S&Ls, far beyond the ability of the federal agencies to salvage. Huge numbers of people will be out of work, huge numbers of people will lose their homes, all at a time when the tax base is deterioration."

- **d. Clinton's sordid personal record** There is a great deal more to Bill Clinton's extra-marital sex life than has surfaced, including more information on Jennifer Flowers, and the seven-year-old illegitimate son which he allegedly fathered with a Little Rock hooker. The Republicans have enough of such "skeletons" in Clinton's closet to do him massive damage in the polls. However, as Hillary Clinton very pointedly said a few months ago, and a just-released book just expanded upon, the Democrats have had information on an alleged affair between George Bush and a female State Department official also named Jennifer. So maybe the sleaze factor will be a Mexican standoff like Mutual Assured Destruction - no one will have the nerve to launch "the big one."

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- **Something to say**

Do you have something to say? We would like to help you get your message, if we have the time available when you need it. We have extensively edited and typeset the Tongues booklet. If you would like to see what we now have available in the line of Desk-Top Publishing, order a copy. (This mailing is also a sample of what we have available. In addition, we have access to a scanner which can add scanned images. Keep in mind though, we use whatever paper is available from our supplier because of the good price which he gives us, along with weight considerations for mailing.)

In our fantastic age (20th & 21st century), the Lord has seen fit to place the best publishing technology in the history of the world at the disposal of His people and within easy reach of the average church. As the population of the world has increased, so has the publishing technology for reaching them with the total message of the cross of Christ. Let us be found faithfully using what the Lord has provided to publish His message to a lost and perishing world. I am firmly convinced that God has provided inexpensive advanced publishing technology for publishing His message of the cross; the devil's crowd has usurped it for their anti-Christ goals, Ps. 68:11. Christians need to quit putting off doing something and do it now before it is too late.

Pastor Need