

Letter 371
The Siege Of Bethel Part 2
Where Did THEY Come From?
2015-07-13

Dear Dan,

There is another Bethel that is special to me. It is where I spent many summers as a youth, and where I repented of my sins at an altar when I was seven. But I also suffered from misunderstanding, harassment, and abuse.

In Letter 03 I talk about a Church Campground that was owned by Bethel Temple of Seattle, and how I was saved at that Church campground in 1966 at Mirror Lake near an area called Federal Way. But 34 years later the campground had become rundown, unkempt, and demons roamed the campus and the old church building freely. Please permit me to explain.

After leaving employment with (G2) in May of 2000, I wanted to be led by the Holy Spirit in my day to day activities as much as possible. So each day I woke up with the expectation of just that. The Lord used this free time to help me get to know angels Gabe and Gabriella better, and just to give me some time to have fun.

One of the things that I had been thinking about and wanting to do for some time even before quitting my job was to visit the place of my spiritual birth. I think also that I wanted to process some of the spiritual abuse I had experienced there and walk on the campground on my own terms, as an adult, and with the new found power I had over the enemy.

So one day we all got into the S-10 and drove down to Federal Way, and found our way to Mirror Lake and the Bethel Campground. I drove into what was still a dirt parking lot, parked the truck and got out.

I stood there for a moment getting my spiritual bearings, and wanting to remember what it was like to be there as a youth. But as we started to walk around, I noticed some things.

The first thing that I noticed was the absence of the main meeting hall, where I had walked up the literal sawdust aisle between the wooden bench pews, knelt at the altar, and wept my heart out repenting of my sins and giving my heart to Jesus. All that was left of the building was the concrete floor, that had been poured after I got saved, and the foundational footings. There had been a basement underneath one end of the main sanctuary, where there was a recreational room. I liked to go down there when it was open because it was cool in the hot August days, and had a ping-pong table.

But it was there in the recreational room one day that I was approached by a female camp counselor. She was familiar to me because I had seen her from a distance over the course of the camp meeting. I remember we talked a little. Then, later on, she accused me behind my back to my own mother of being an illegal drug user, saying to my mom that she was experienced in detecting drug use. Funny thing; I had never taken any drugs of any kind before, or at that time. The counselor lady was dead wrong, herself being deceived, and listening instead to the voice of an accusing spirit Satan had assigned against my family.

It is without too great a clarity that I remember, but I think there were some of the old bunk houses still standing that would house kids during kids camp, and then could be rented by out-of-towners to stay overnight during the general family camp.

But it was rather obvious by their appearance that the grounds were no longer used for camp meetings. Then I activated my spirit-space “x-ray vision” (seeing in the spirit) and scoped the place for spiritual activity. I don’t remember seeing any angels, (other than my own, but I wasn’t looking for them anyway) but there were more than a few demons lurking about.

Then we started to walk over to the Church building that was still standing and had been an Assembly of God Church. The Church was located adjacent to the same property as the campground, but it was not affiliated with Bethel Temple.

The main door was standing open, so we walked right in to see what was going on. I didn’t see anyone, but I could tell that the church building had been converted to a Christian day school center. And I could also both sense the presence of and see demonic spirits.

And I was dismayed, astounded, and saddened and what I saw and perceived.

I knew that this was the work-product of compromise in the church. Some of the teaching materials I saw on one of the shelves was more or less a “new age” curriculum for kids.

We left both the building and the campground without seeing any other humans. And I think that was by design of the Holy Spirit. He wanted me to sense, perceive, and witness what had happened at the Church and the Campground. It had some under siege by the Enemy.

I did some research before writing this letter, and found a word-press blog by the last pastor that had anything to do with Bethel Temple. There is no mention as to the disposition of the campground. I can only surmise that some time in the past both it and the Assemblies of God Church building had passed into other hands.

But I have wondered from time to time, how a former Pentecostal campground with such a powerful Kingdom history could become “... *a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and **hated bird!***”

The Campground named Bethel, the “Stable Wormhole to Heaven” that it once had been, had become a “City of Luz”. C.R.O. A Commercial Religious Organization.

Blessings...

R. C. Theophilus