

Get Up with the Sun

Sermon Title: **Get Up with the Sun**

Sermon Number: **5240**

Speaker: **Nathaniel Hawthorne Bronner, Jr.**

Links to audio sermon – *Windows Media Version is best, MP3 is 2nd best:*

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PASTOR NATHANIEL: Today I am going to be beginning a four-part series dealing with Manifestation. God wants to manifest some things into your life, and there are some things that God has for you that you have not seen; yet, there are some things that God has for you that you have seen. There are things that you know are missing in your life and you want certain elements in life and you want certain things manifested, but you do not how and you have been wanting them for so long. I want to begin today the series dealing with just Manifestation. Today's sermon is Sermon No. 5240. Today's sermon is going to be a simple one. It is not going to have a lot of deep revelation; that is going to be Sermon No. 5241.

But today's sermon is simple. For next week, God poured some revelation on me that I said, "Lord, I just wish I could preach that this week, but it is not time. This is simple today. Turn to the person sitting next to you and tell them, "This is simple."

CONGREGATION: This is simple.

PASTOR NATHANIEL: This is a simple thing, and it is the first step of the four of Manifestation. It is something that many of us we have heard sermons before on bringing things into being; this one is different. But yet it is what God gave me, and He gave it for a reason. Everyone won't need this, but some of you definitely will. It is the first phase of Manifestation of what God has shown me for those of you who are hearing my voice right now.

In the Book of Mark, 1st chapter, the 35th verse -- you do not have to turn there; it's just one verse and it says this: "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed" ... "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up and went off into a solitary place, where He prayed."

The message that the Holy Spirit laid upon my heart to bring to you as the first message in this season and the first message in this series is simply entitled "Get Up with the Sun" ... "Get Up with the Sun". I told you it's not a complicated message. It does not have a lot of deep spiritual revelation. Actually, it is talking about the S-U-N. "Get Up with the Sun" is a simple message that simply tells you one of the first things you are going to need to do to manifest and to bring some things into your life is simply get up early. That is not deep. It is a simple thing; but to sum it up, you need to get up early and go to bed early. That is not deep. There is no heavy spiritual revelation dealing with that; but if some of you can grasp this, some of you know right now who I am talking to.

You need to get up early, and you need to go to bed early. Turn to the person sitting next to you and tell them, "Get up early."

CONGREGATION: Get up early.

PASTOR NATHANIEL: “Go to bed early.”

CONGREGATION: Go to bed early.

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Now, that is the whole sermon in a nutshell. If you are already doing that, if you are listening to me via television or if you are listening via the internet or any other electronic media, cassette or CD, you can stop listening right now if you are already doing that. But if you are not, you need to stay tuned. If you are red-eyed in the morning, staying up late at night, you need to stay tuned, because you need to grasp this thing and you need to grasp both this natural and spiritual principle just to simply get up early and go to bed early.

Benjamin Franklin perhaps coined the most famous of the phrases, where he simply says, “Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise” -- ancient knowledge, but very, very accurate.

Pastor James preached a sermon recently called “The Writing on the Wall” that dealt with how you should put your goals and everything in places where you want to go and things that you want to manifest, put the stuff on your wall. God has given me a series of things for me to do every day.

And I had to ask God, “Lord, what do I need to do to help me to keep it?” He said, “Put the thing in front of you on a constant basis.” So I have it on my computer desktop, which is called wallpaper. I have four computers: I have an office computer, I have a home desktop computer, and I have two laptop computers. And every time I turn on my computer, there are the 14 things that God has given me to do on a daily basis; so I see them every time I get to my computer. But the first thing on the list is, “Get up at 5:00 a.m.” “Get up at 5:00 a.m.,” that is the first thing on the list. The last thing on the list is, “In bed by 11:00 p.m.” You may say to yourself, “Lord, if you are going to give me all this deep stuff, why so simple of a thing as what time to get up and what time to go to bed?”

Do you know God will order every step in your life if you will do two things? First, put yourself in a position to hear His Word; then second, do what God says. Those are the two great difficulties that people have: number one, they won't put themselves in a position to hear; and then when they do hear it, they won't do it. So you have to have both of those elements in place.

Those are the first and last things on the list that I have to do. He even spoke to me and said, “Look, of all the stuff you have to do, the most important thing for you to do is get in bed on time,” He said, “because if you don't get in the bed on time, you

won't get up on time; and if you don't get up on time, it throws your whole program off." Now, that may sound simple -- like I said, this is not some deep spiritual revelation -- but it forms a basis for you to make some powerful changes in your life.

If you ever follow powerful people, people who shape and change the world, you'll find they go to bed early, and they are up early. They do not sleep all times of the day and at 10:00 o'clock in the morning they are dragging up and opening the refrigerator. You will find that people who change and mold and shape the world have grabbed ahold of some intrinsic spiritual and natural truths, and they are up early.

My father, who was a world-shaker, always saw the sun come up. He was up early in the morning, wasn't he, Mother? Wasn't he, C. Elijah? Wasn't he? He was up early in the morning. He understood some principles, and he would say, "Look, I have gotten more done by the time most people wake up than they will get done all day long." You need to get up with the sun. It is a basic principle of spirit and nature that will change your whole world.

See, there is a difference between getting up because you have to and getting up with a purpose. See, sometimes we get up early; but the only reason we get up early is just because we have to be to work on time. You understand what I'm saying? I mean, in just enough time! You understand what I mean? We sleep absolutely as late as we possibly can, and we get up in just enough time to rush, get ready and rush toward just getting in the door just on time.

God is trying to change some of your mentalities, see, because in the beginning -- and your day begins in the beginning -- if in the beginning you are getting up in a stress and in a strain and doing last minute, He is going to even change that. See, if you want to manifest some things in your life, start at the beginning; start when you wake up. That is why He said for the first message of this season, "I want you to just tell them get up with the sun. Just get up! Turn to the person sitting next to you and just tell them, "Get up!"

CONGREGATION: Get up.

PASTOR NATHANIEL: See, sometimes you just need to get up. I mean, you can even tell sometimes when people are going somewhere just by the way they sit. Do you understand? You can tell the difference between a person who sits like they are going somewhere, they sit like this; then you've got some folks -- you know what I am saying?

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Do you know, you can tell even oftentimes by the way people walk whether they are going; you can just tell. It will have nothing to do with pride. There comes a power when you get up in the morning with purpose, and there is a difference between your getting up just in time; you are now getting up on the man's time, if you know what I mean. That's on man's schedule. You need to set your own schedule and you need to get up with purpose, not just because that's the exact time you need to get up just in time to get to your job. It changes some things when you wake up in the morning with purpose instead of waking up just because it's just the time you have to get up just so you can get to the man's job.

I am changing the way you think. But if you ever change the way you think, it must change the way you act. So I am telling you right now, just change how you just get up in the morning, and you will be surprised. That is why God told me and, you know, He didn't tell me this in the beginning. What happened was, I started waking up at 5:00 o'clock in the morning, and I would look over the clock, 5:00 o'clock on the nose. The next morning, I'd look up, 4:59, 4:58, 4:59, 5:00. I am waking up, and this went on for weeks. Finally, I said, "Why in the world am I waking up every morning at 5:00 a.m.?" God never spoke that to me at that time, because at the time I don't believe I was even hearing the Voice of God. But something was happening that just caused me to wake up at 5:00 a.m. every morning, and I knew that it was unnatural. Then I began to go into my prayer, and later God began to speak, "This is the time you are to wake every morning."

Learn to get up early, and you will find that the vibration is different in the morning. First of all, everybody else is asleep. Everyone else is asleep, snoozing. That is symbolic of the world. People who get ahead are thinking while everyone else is sleeping. That is the way of the world. That is why all of the rich folk are thinking. They are figuring while you just "Zzzzz" -- you know, that kind of sleep that has spit running out of the corner of your mouth. It is a kind of goodness, and it is good sleep!

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: But if you are ever going to really get to the point where God wants you to get, you are going to have to learn how to get up early while everyone else is still asleep. People, this is a principle of life. Most people are asleep; spiritually as well as physically, most are asleep. So if you want to wake up, if you want to get up, if you want to go up, if you want to change your destiny, you cannot be like everyone else; you must do something different. You must set your own schedule and get on God's time and not get on man's time. I am here to tell you right now, He is telling you, "Get up!" and it will change some things that are manifested in your life.

Now, see, I own my own company. I do not have to be at work at any particular time; I can get up when I want to. But it is not when God wants me to get up. So I am up earlier than anyone who works for me. That is why they work for me.

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: So I am trying to teach you some principles. So while everyone else is asleep, I am up, and that is the same kind of spirit, people, that will take you to a different level: if you are up on purpose, not because that is just the time you have to get to your job. Get up in the morning, God will begin to speak to you. Out of the mist and in the darkness, He will begin to lay some things on your heart. You will be surprised what it does to your spirit when you can just get up and everything around the house is quiet.

Sometimes even when I get through with my prayer, I go out and run. Everything is dark and still. The air is clean. Everything has been purified. The grass smells different. There is a different vibration of those who rise with purpose early.

Now, I know you're saying, "What does that have to do with manifesting?" It has to do with your beginning. So I am giving you knowledge and inspiration of how just to change the way your life begins every day. That's the first thing that God gave me on the list: "Get up at 5:00 o'clock every morning." I spend 40 minutes in prayer at 5:00 every morning. Then He says, "At 10:00 o'clock every night, another 20 minutes in prayer; and by 11:00 p.m., in the bed."

You need to get up early and go to bed early. Turn to the person sitting next to you again and tell them, "Get up early ..."

CONGREGATION: Get up early ...

PASTOR NATHANIEL: "... and go to bed early."

CONGREGATION: ... and go to bed early.

PASTOR NATHANIEL: You see, as I began to look at how God had just ordered my life, He has me in prayer at 10:00 p.m., and do you know that changes your sleep? It changes your sleep when you spend time with God before you go to bed. Do you know what the world has most of us programmed to do before we go to bed? Watch the news.

If you want to manifest some things in your life you have to change the way you start and the way you finish! So what God has given you today, He has given you a sandwich with the Bread of Life on both ends and you are going to get the meat in the middle. But He is giving you the bread of life; He is changing the way you start

and the way you finish your day. The world will have you getting up in a rush, it will have you going to bed after you have to watch 10:00 o'clock or the 11:00 o'clock news that has got all this mess, all this violence, all this distress, all this negativity; that is what is poured into your spirit, and then you think you are going to have a peaceful night sleeping.

That is the way 90% of people are, because it is the way of the crowd; but the crowd is asleep! God's trying to tell you, "Get up!" Turn to the person sitting next to you and tell them, "Get up!"

CONGREGATION: Get up!

PASTOR NATHANIEL: God is trying to wake you up. That is why even Jesus said, "They are asleep! They have no awareness! They are following all this big crowd of the world, because most of the stuff that is programmed and is put on the news for you to watch is designed, created, written and owned by folks who get up early.

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: They get up early, programming how to mess up your mind, and you don't understand it and it has you going to bed and then wondering why you can't sleep. Then you wonder when you get up why you're scared and paranoid and worried and all this kind of stuff. That is the stuff you are putting in your mind before you go to bed. Get up early, go to bed early, and have yourself in tune with God!

(Applause.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Like I said, this is not deep spiritual stuff. But it is just as true for God before He will ever set you to manifest some things in your life, see, because even if stuff is manifested and if you are not ready for it, all you'll do is make a mess out of the manifest. That is all you are going to do! That is why when people win the lottery, it messes up 95% of the folks. Everybody wants the prosperity. Look, if you are not grounded and if you are not geared to handle it, all that manifestation will do is mess you up! You've got to be able to even handle God's blessings when they come, so He is giving you some guidelines: get up, and go to bed early.

It changes your spirit! And trust me on this, it does. Some of you don't believe it; I said just try it for seven days and watch the change in your heart! Get up in the morning, before the sun comes up while everyone else is asleep, and spend some time alone with God.

I'll tell you what happened with me when I used to do it. It was a struggle for me to do it five minutes. Then I went to ten. And one day God spoke, "I want you to spend an hour a day in prayer." I said, "An hour!?" Start where you are. But once you start, you will find it gets easier, and it gets easier, and it gets easier.

I know some of you are saying, "But wait a minute, Pastor. If you go to bed at 11:00 and get up at 5:00, that is only six hours of sleep; you are supposed to have eight hours of sleep!"

That is a lie. Let me tell you the medical science behind it: "Recent studies suggest that the old adage that eight hours of sleep is required for good health could well be wrong. After analyzing data from more than 1 million people, researchers at the University of California found that people who sleep for more than eight hours or less than four hours are 15% more likely to die over a six-year period than those who manage six or seven hours of shuteye each night."

The science even says it! Basically its saying, "If you sleep too much, it will kill you." That is basically what the science even says. It says ideally you should have between six and seven hours of sleep per night. The better shape your body is in, the less sleep you'll need. That is one way you can even tell sometimes your physical condition. If you have to have a whole lot of sleep as a general rule, your body needs some work on it.

The other research says this: "Early to bed and early to rise makes you smarter. A recent survey of university students in Utah has found that students who habitually go to bed late and sleep late the next day have lower grade-point averages than students with early to bed and early to rise sleeping habits. Researchers at Brigham Young University in Provo surveyed 184 of the school's freshmen and found that the later students slept in the morning, the lower their grades tended to be. Of all of the factors studied, weekday and weekend wakeup times had the strongest association with student GPAs."

They're saying when they checked all the factors, the main factors that determined the grades was if they got up early and went to bed early. It even makes you smarter! So when God tells you something, it is for your good in more ways that you can even imagine.

It says, "Here is strong evidence backing the early to bed, early to rise recommendations. The reason that this is so important is that there are body systems that are tied to the natural circadian rhythms of the Earth. Our bodies, particularly the adrenal glands, also do most of their healing during the early part of the night. Going to bed early is even more important in the winter, when the sun sets earlier."

It says, “Even researchers from the University of California San Diego School of Medicine found that early-morning light raises levels of gluttonizing hormone by 70%. Gluttonizing hormone is involved in the production of testosterone, a hormone which can help men build muscle, cut fat and raise mood.”

Also, testosterone is the hormone that gives men their virility. So, men, if you are having a little erectile problem, you need to what? Go to bed early!

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: That is just the science of it. So, ladies, if your men is just not fully up to par, get that rascal in the bed early!

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: That is just the truth.

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: “The Anti-Aging Institute has found that people who have a set and a regular bedtime and wakeup schedule, where they go to bed early and wake up early, live an average of seven years longer.”

So, see, when God tells you something, it has ramifications in so many different areas of your life. He is starting off this season by just telling you to get up early and go to bed early.

You are going to have to resist the tide of the world, because the world is never going in the right place. Go to bed early, and get up early. Spend time in prayer with God. Turn that television and that destructive news off! Do not fill your mind with all that mess. God wants you healthy, people.

I am going to be giving you some other keys; but this is the first one, and you need to start changing some habits right now. I know some of you are saying, “But you don’t understand, Pastor. I have been staying up late all my life.” You may have been getting some stuff that you don’t need all your life, too.

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: So if you want some different stuff than what you have been getting, you need to do some different stuff than what you have been doing. So even if you have been staying up and it takes some time for the body to readjust its rhythms; but you need to go to bed early, and you need to get up early. You need to

have the same schedule. You need to be up at 5:00 o'clock in the morning, praying and spending some time with God, and you need to go to bed.

You know, "I've got to see my story. I've got a program coming on I need to see." You better listen to some wisdom and some sense and understand why God will speak to us on some things.

The next message, Message No. 5241 will be coming next, and listen to them in order. I have some serious revelation that God gave me that I am going to reveal next week.

If you are listening to this online, you can go to AirJesus.com and you can listen to this message, No. 5240, "Get Up with the Sun", and the next three messages, 5241, 5242 and 5243. God really poured some stuff in me for next week that is going to rock your world.

Even my brother, one of the millionaire brothers that I have, he told me something a few days ago that God woke me up with for just the prophetic truth of the thing, and I want to share that with you next week. God wants to manifest some things into your life. But next week, I want to see everybody bright-eyed, nobody sleepy, nobody drowsy, nobody droopy, because next week you are going to do what? Go to bed?

CONGREGATION: Early.

PASTOR NATHANIEL: And get up?

CONGREGATION: Early.

PASTOR NATHANIEL: I thank you for joining us here today. If you want to send this message to anyone, simply go to AirJesus.com and send it to a friend.

I thank you for joining Brothers of the Word, because, Brother, you need the Word.

(Applause.)

(Music.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Amen, amen. I told you it was going to be simple. You can remember this message, the first message you heard of this season: go to bed early, get up early, and watch the change this will make in your life.

You may wonder, "What am I going to do if I get up early?"

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Spend that time in prayer with God. Watch the change it will make in your life.

Do we have anyone here today and for this time who wants to make a change within your life, and you want to say, “God, I have been running for a long time”? There are some of you here who have been running, and running, and running, and running. You know that it is time to slow down and give your life to Jesus. It is not all about just because this happens to be just the beginning. Any time you dedicate your life to God, it is a beginning. It doesn’t matter whether it is the first of the year, the middle of the year or the last of the year; the point is when you do this thing.

I know so many will make resolutions that will be broken before they are 30 days old. That is why God wanted to bring something that you can just do in the physical, and it is going to change some things. He is setting the stage, and He is setting the stage to make your manifest destiny. But He cannot use you if you are asleep.

The Bible says a little sleep and it takes you even into poverty. You have to get up. God is trying to get you up with the sun, the S-U-N; but there is also the get you up with the Son, the S-O-N.

You know, even Jesus could not use anyone that was lazy. Everyone Jesus got was working.

(Applause.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: They were up. When Jesus had work to do, He could not have a bunch of disciples that were, you know, snoozing. But He did have that problem. You know when He was in the Garden of Gethsemane? They were snoozing! In the physical, it is that way just as it is in the spiritual. Jesus is trying to wake us up.

If you know you need a change in your life, there is no better time, there is no better day, than right now.

(Applause.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Amen, amen and amen! This is an indication. Even last week, we had nothing but men who came. It gratifies my heart to see men.

I am a chauvinist, I will tell you that right off the bat. I am a chauvinist, because you know Who else is a Chauvinist? The Lord God Almighty. So if you have a

problem with that, you need to switch religions. But like I say, I do not know what religion you're going to.

I am a chauvinist; I believe God's Word that there is a duty for men, as well as women. When we get roles reversed and get out of order, all this stuff goes to twisting and turning, and we cannot figure out what is going on. I tell you what. It is called men are trying to be women and women are trying to be men. I'm just telling you, it is just flat out of order!

The result is reverberating throughout even our relationships. Do you know women all over the world live longer than men by an average of seven years? Do you know that the research also showed that women sleep better than men? They are attributing the increased lifespan to women to the fact they sleep better. So, men, if you want to get your virility up and lengthen your lifespan, go to bed early and get up early. It prolongs your life.

I thank God for these men. And I do not care what society says, every woman wants a strong man. I do not care what society says. I do not care what they have on commercials about "I can bring home the bacon, shake it up in a pan, put it on the table and still make them feel a man". I don't care what society says; every woman, I do not care what she says, because it is the way God made us.

Now, the problem is, you can always twist what God made. That is why we have so many men now on the down-low.

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: You can always twist it. That is exactly why we have so many men on the down-low. And it is a shame when a man is doing a better job of loving a man than a woman.

(Applause.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Like I say, these roles are getting twisted. So that is why we have got to get some stuff back in order!

(Applause.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Amen, amen!

When God starts to bring a change in the Earth, that is why He said, "I will turn the hearts of the fathers back to the tree." He did not say, "I will turn the hearts of the mothers"; He said, "I will turn the hearts of the fathers." When God got ready to destroy the Earth, He said, "I looked into the hearts of men"; He did not say

anything about women. It has nothing to do to lower women; it is simply that man is placed as a covering for woman.

And, women, you have a tough job. It is a tough job, but you live longer. All over the world, I do not care what society, I do not care what race you look at, what culture, you live longer all over the world! I firmly have a belief that the reason that you do is because the men are not in order, and the penalty for being out of order is always greatest on the person in responsibility. So God made the man responsible, but He made him pay a heavier price when he deviates.

I am just glad to see the men standing up to be men. That is why when the Egyptians wanted to destroy the Hebrews, they said, "Kill the male child. Let the women live," because they knew. It is just as ancient as it is modern, they knew! You destroy the men, and you destroy the race. They said, "Let the women live; the women, let them live. But if it is a man, kill it."

The devil is trying to destroy the men, because he knows if he destroys the men, he has the whole generation. So, women, this message is for you, too, because one of the best ways the devil can destroy the men is through the women. That is who he talked to in the first place! But if you shut your doors and do not get corrupted by this mess, you would not destroy the man; all you've got to do is destroy the woman, and that will turn around and destroy the man!

(Applause.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: So, people, God has a destiny, He is bringing a change, and it is no accident on the last Sunday and on the first Sunday, from the first to the last, men have made the change. If you can get these men changed, they will automatically provide a covering over the women, because, women, you need some strong men. That is just all there is to it. You do not want to have to worry about it. And I am going to be honest about it, with some of the stuff not only do you have to worry about some of the brothers on the down-low, to be honest about it, you've got a whole lot of the preachers on the down-low. See, it used to just be in the choir section.

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Now, you know I am telling you the truth. It used just to be in the choir section! Now, I am hearing a whole lot of stuff about a whole lot of the ministers, and not only do you have now to worry about their fooling with the women in the congregation; you've got the word about the minister fooling with the men in the congregation.

This stuff is twisted, folks. We have gotten some stuff seriously twisted. But it ought not to be, and that just shows you how bad stuff is. It ought not to be that if a man's got to go get some, he's got to go to a man. That is just a sickness, but that is how Satan twists stuff around.

He's got us all twisted up, the men and the women. He is trying to bring some things back into covenant order, and you better understand this stuff. Now, see, one thing about it if you get up early, some of this stuff will be revealed to you. Your mind will be clearer and sharper, and God will be able to speak some things into your world.

I want to ask you C. Elijah and James just to come and just pray. I do hear when God speaks something, and I am just going to follow what He says. This is what God says. He says, "I want every woman in this place to come and surround these men as support; just in the back right, every woman in the place, every woman in the place. It is symbolic. See, women, you have got to stand behind the men. Every woman in the place, just come and stand behind these men. God is a God of restoration; He can take us to levels, but He has to have both of us. It is almost impossible, trying to do it by themselves. Every woman in the place, just come and stand.

And, men, I want you to just turn around. Look what is behind you. Do you know what that does to the spirit of a man when his woman is behind him?

When he met my mother, my father said, "If I can just get one person, just one person who thinks as I think who will stand with me," he said, "there is nothing in the world we cannot do." God wants to turn us.

Turn around and look. I know your wife is out there; but just look, find her, find her -- there she is! Find her, all right, amen!

(Laughter.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: If you can just stand behind him, see, the man has to be going in the right direction, because if you are behind someone going down the wrong path, they will carry you down the wrong path.

God is trying to show us something and to change us. He is going to manifest some things, and every one of the lives here, these next three messages are going to be serious and they are going to be deep; but they are going to change some things in your world.

I am going to ask Pastor James to pray, and then I am going to ask C. Elijah to pray and close us out. Just stay right here. Men, just look.

Do you know that when you start walking in God's path, there is a host of angels just like this? There is a host of angels. That is why when the prophet and his apprentice were so scared, he said, "Lord, open his eyes and let him see." That is why He told me, "Just let all the women come and just stand behind them."

These are angels. That is why they call women angels, "my little angel". That is why they call them that, these are angels. Now, can you imagine? When you step into God's path, He sends a host of angels to protect and to guide and to surround you; but you've got be in His path.

I want you to understand the flip side of this: the devil has angels; they are called demons. And when you step into the devil's path, he sends a host of demons, because a third of the angels were cast out of Heaven, so he has a whole lot of demons. He has enough demons, that is why that man said "legion"; he had 1,000 demons in him ... plenty.

There are always two paths, and these men have made a choice of the right path. When you step into the right path of God, He will send angels to surround you.

Pastor James?

PASTOR JAMES: Let us pray.

Lord, we thank You right now for these four men, oh, Father, that even stand proxy, oh, Lord, from men everywhere, oh, Lord, from the north, from the south, from the east and from the west, our Father. We thank You, oh, Lord, for their boldness first of all to come, oh, Father, to the altar, Lord. And we pray, Lord, that You will honor their step of boldness, Father, and rebuild, oh, Lord, everything that has been torn down on the inside of them, Father. Lord, I pray that You will give them a spirit of early rising, oh, Lord, and early to bed, oh, Father, from this message, oh, Lord. And I pray, oh, Lord, that as they rise up before the sun rises, Lord, that they will be the first ones in their households that will be able to see out over the horizon, Lord, as the light comes. And I pray, oh, Lord, that You will use their vision, oh, Father, to give vision for the entire household, Lord; that they will be able to see with your light, oh, Lord, from Your Son, Father, and then wake the household with the vision and run with the vision, Lord. I pray that they will write the visions for their houses, oh, Lord, so that they that readeth it may reign over them. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

PASTOR C. ELIJAH: Praise God! Give the Lord a handclap of praise, amen, amen, amen, amen!

(Applause.)

PASTOR C. ELIJAH: Amen, amen, amen. Just before we close out, if there is anyone without a church home and you want to join the church on this first Sunday of the year, simply raise your hand so we can identify you -- got one over here. Amen, amen, amen; amen, amen.

(Applause.)

PASTOR C. ELIJAH: If you can make your way down front, we will pray over you quickly and then we will ...

(Applause.)

PASTOR C. ELIJAH: Amen, amen; amen, amen. Certainly delighted to have you, and we would like to welcome you to this local fellowship, this church family, and we are certainly delighted to have you.

(Applause.)

PASTOR C. ELIJAH: Amen! Amen, amen, amen; amen, amen. Are you joining, too?

CONGREGATION MEMBER: Yes, sir.

PASTOR C. ELIJAH: You're joining, too? Amen. Delighted, amen, amen.

(Applause.)

PASTOR C. ELIJAH: Amen, amen. We are going to pray over our two candidates who are coming for membership, and I want you just to stretch your hands toward them; and those of you that are coming to join us, lift your hands up and surrender to the Lord as we accept you.

Father, we thank You so much, God, for this man and this woman, who come to join themselves to this local church, this family, God, this local body. Father, we receive them, God, and we thank You for them. We thank You, God, for their participation and their part of this ministry. We pray that You will make a place here for them, God; that their provision will be here; that they will learn and grow and be rooted and established. God, we pray that they will flourish in Your Kingdom; that their gifts and talents will be used for the up-building of Your Kingdom, God; that You will expand them even to go out into the world, God, and use them mightily for Your Glory and for Your Name. We pray for their households, their peace, their joy, their health, their prosperity, God, and for great new things happening and beginning in their lives this day, God. We commit to be faithful to them. We ask them to be

faithful to this ministry, God; to serve, to love, to give their souls, God, and we will commit to teach, to love, to pray for them, to up-build them and to lift them. In Jesus' name we pray and receive them, amen! Amen, amen, amen. Amen.

(Applause.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Before you are seated, I just want to do again what I see in the Spirit. If you will just part like parting the waters, what I want to do is, I want these men just to walk towards the back, and I want you to pat each one on the back as they walk. Do not ask or question why, just do it; as they walk past, just pat them on the back; just pat them on the back; pat them on the back.

(Applause.)

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Amen, amen and amen; amen and amen and amen.

He wants to know if he can go ahead. Go ahead (laughing). Amen, amen and amen.

Lord, we thank You for these men that have come upon this day, and we pray Thy blessing, Thy continuing covering over them, dear Father. Make them into the men that You have destined them to be, and that every one who has touched them and stood behind them, make them the women that You have destined for them to be. In Thy Son Jesus' name we pray, amen, amen!