



2025: WHAT'S AHEAD

- A Personal Update
- The Season We're Entering
- A Note of Thanks



Hi friends,

First, please indulge me. Allow me to share a few personal things with you about myself, my family, and my calling here at the end of 2024.

I know it's a cliché to say that a year flew by but . . . this year flew by. As I shared with you twelve months ago, the Spirit of the Lord told me that He was giving me grace for "difficult conversations" in 2024.

Boy oh boy, was that the case for me. It's been a year of hard conversations right up to the end here. And I have a few more on the calendar!

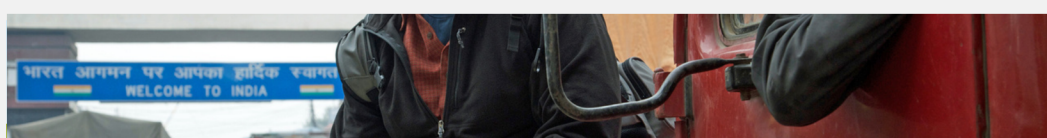
Ministry Update

As I write, the final touches are being made on my new website. There, all of my content will be accessible in one place.

As I was telling someone just today . . . all I can do is put stuff out there that I believe will help people. I can't make people aware of it or make people want it. And the scarcest thing on the planet right now is "attention." I have no peace about doing all of the latest techniques and tricks for "marketing" oneself on the Internet.

I'd rather just put stuff out there and let God breathe on it. As I said today, "I can put little sailboats out in the water, but only God can make the wind blow."

I'm about to record a whole bunch of 15-minute video teachings that will be available on the new web site. Among the titles/topics for these are:





- Discovering Authentic Grace
- Entering a Lifestyle of Rest
- Unwrapping the Gift of Righteousness
- Confidence Before God. Intimacy with the Father
- How to Pray From Victory (Instead of Striving For Victory)
- Son or Servant? Adoption and Authority as a Child of God
- IN Christ: It's Who You Are & Where You Are

I also have several books of my own to crank out in 2025. Among them are:

- *Until His Enemies Are His Footstool: The End Times Secrets of the 110th Psalm— Decoded*
- *Pools of Honey on the Ground: How Spiritual Insecurity Keeps you From Living the Sweet Life Jesus Came to Provide*
- *Are You Living at the Wrong Tree?*

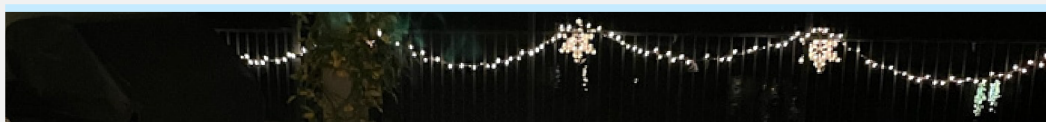
And I'll finally be rolling out the "Critical Thinking" e-course this year.

I turned 65 back at the end of October. Now I am, essentially, launching a new business/ministry enterprise.

Thirty-two years ago, when I was 34, Tracy and I did a big "restart" when we pulled up stakes and moved to Minnesota with three girls—ages four, one-and a half, and five months old. We did another one six years later when we moved to Dallas, as Jon Simpson and I co-founded the agency Holland|Simpson.

Almost 12 years later— 14 years ago next month—we took on another big "reset" when I went to work at Inprov at the age of 51. At that point, Tracy and I were essentially starting all over in many ways.

Now, in this season of life it seems it's time for another one. In full transparency, here's the big question I'm pondering in this season of life:





“Do I have one more big re-start/re-boot push in me?” I’m confident I do.

I’ll continue to work at Inprov to pay the bills as I endeavor to get this new airplane off the ground. My employer has been very gracious and very supportive. He is a tremendous blessing.

So here we go!

I’m launching a “startup” in a season in which many guys my age that I know are cashing out, retiring, and slowing down. But I’m confident in receiving the grace, energy, and drive to do what’s necessary.

But again, I can only put little sailboats in the water. That’s my part. The wind that takes them anywhere is the breath of God.

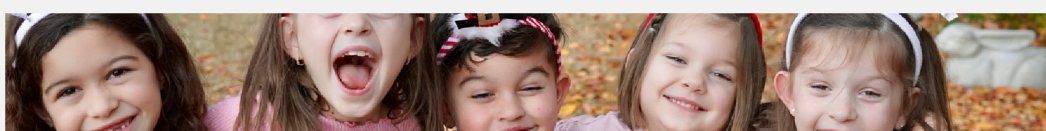
I know I can count on your prayers, proclamations, and blessings for favorable winds. In other news . . .

A Look Forward at 2025

Back in November, I published a blog post called “[A Season of Creative Destruction](#).” I believe that season will continue in 2025. It’s messy but it’s good. We are in the early days of a 500-year cycle in which God advances His kingdom plans and purposes in big ways after several centuries of what feels like stagnation at best, and decline at worst.

Fasten your spiritual seatbelts. We’re about to go into battle, and that’s a good thing. (And by “we” I mean the global (capital “C”) Church; churches/ministries in individual nations and regions, including our nation; and individual families and households.

Here’s why that’s good news. There are two kinds of battles: *defensive* and *offensive*.





As Christians, we often talk about being “under attack from the enemy.” And that’s a real thing. And when we’re under attack, we can be assured we will overcome. (Romans 8:37—” But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. This is a *defensive* battle.)

But my sense is that the battles before us are of the *offensive* kind. The kind where we take new ground (and re-take ground we lost in the past). The kind where we forcibly move the enemy off of territory he has no legal right to be occupying. Since his complete legal defeat at the cross, the King’s enemies are merely trespassers and squatters.

The prophet Isaiah, peering into the New Covenant era, saw a day such as this:

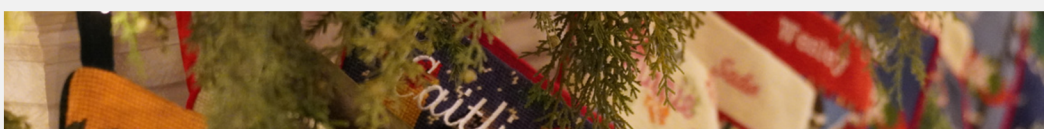
“In that day the LORD with His hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the FLEEING serpent . . .” (Isaiah 27:1 ESV)

Here’s a helpful illustration from history. (That’s right . . . History! Deal with it. ha)

At the beginning of what became World War II, German forces invaded France and effectively took control of the entire country. That territory did not belong to Germany, but the Nazis was occupying it nonetheless.

Great Britain declared war on Germany, and from its new strongholds in France, Germany began to attack England. What historians call “The Battle of Britain” largely took place in the skies over England. In fact, Germany was in the process of planning “Operation Sea Lion”—a full-on land invasion of Great Britain.

At that moment, Great Britain was largely fighting a *defensive* battle.





But then, with the help of the United States, Great Britain began taking the battle to the German strongholds in France. For a season, England found herself fighting defensively and offensively at the same time.

Then came the D-Day Invasion. The Allied planners knew that if they could take and hold just a little bit of territory in France—a “beachhead”—they could shift the nature of the war from defensive to offensive.

They did. And they were right. From D-Day forward, the war in Europe became about taking back territory from Germany—one stronghold at a time. (If you’ve seen the first, horrific 20 minutes of the movie *Saving Private Ryan*, you have some understanding of how fierce the battle to gain that beachhead was.

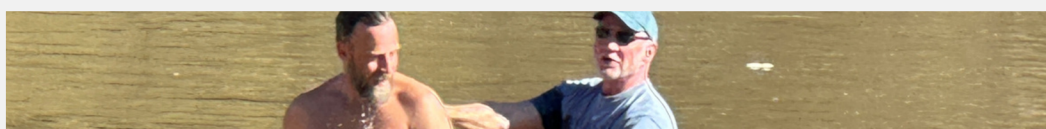
In recent months, something significant has shifted. We, in general terms, are entering a season in which our battles will be shifting from defensive to offensive. It will be about taking back lost ground AND taking new ground.

I know that’s true in my life. I know it’s true in the lives of many of my family members. And I know it’s true with several of the ministries with which I work closely.

I suspect it may be true for you, too. So, this is my encouragement to you: It is literally *en-courage-ment*. Have courage! Leviathan is a “fleeing” serpent.

As Joshua and the Israelites stood on eastern edge of the Jordan River, looking across at the amazing land God had promised them, this was God’s message to him (and them):

Be strong and courageous, for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous . . . Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not be terrified nor dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:6,7,9)





In *Praying Grace for Men* I wrote this declaration:

“God, I can move boldly and confidently into everything You have promised me. I will not be terrified or dismayed. I take both courage and strength from knowing You are with me. Your joy is my strength. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

I’m putting this in my mouth as we enter 2025. Prayerfully consider doing the same.

A Note of Thanks

A big, big “thank you” to everyone who gave offerings in response to my last letter. The fund to keep our missionary commitments going has been well-replenished. Again, “thank you!”

In His kingdom grace,

David

