

Mary Craig

From: Mary Craig
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Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

May 2009

I've been thinking a lot lately about boundaries. It is God who sets boundaries, borders, and/or limits. It is God who establishes boundaries, enlarges borders, delegates authority to demarcate, and determines the destinies of individuals and nations.

All of life includes boundaries, borders, and limits. All of nature has God-set boundaries (Ps 74.16, 17; Job 26.10). It is with boundaries and borders that nations distinguish, protect, and expand (Deut. 32.8, Is 10.13, Nahum 3.13, 14).

Governments are expected to protect the borders of their respective nations. Governmental laws provide behavioral limits of people groups and control cultural norms (Pr 8.15, 16); decadent states are neither fair nor just with such limits (Pr. 28.12, 28). Ruling requires wisdom, preferably wisdom from God.

Individuals must learn to set limits on personal desires, opinions, and behaviors. People need boundaries to have wholesome relationships. People need to give definition and demarcation as to their persons, space, identity, values, behavior, etc.

Who sets the boundary? Demarcation is a blessing, as 1 Chronicles 4.10 demonstrates. "Oh that You would bless me indeed and enlarge my border...And God granted him [Jabez] what he requested." God can enlarge a nation (Is 26.15), restore a land and reassign desolate inheritances (Is 49.8). God can authorize us to enlarge the place of our tent, stretch and lengthen, and strengthen stakes (Is 54.2). God can authorize when it is time to build walls, extend boundaries, and give increase (Micah 7.11, 12).

Believers have a demarcating authority as long as they listen to the true God and do what He says. God has been repositioning people, wealth, nations, and what all. Demonstrate that you can be trusted to manage personal privileges and freedoms (Ps 16.6) and not use what God has given to you unwisely or for personal advantage or gain. Be a faithful trustee in all of God's gifts to you and faithful stewards of the gospel. If God grants you favor, be faithful with other people's feelings and well-being and let the Holy Spirit better define and demarcate relationships according to divine order and wholeness.

Allow God to use you to set the boundaries, borders, and limits in social circles, at work, and in your ministries. Show the Lord you can be trusted with groups of people, being fair and just, seeking holiness before the Lord, and looking out for the interests of others and not just your own. Consider Joseph who established limits in Pharaoh's circle (Psalm 105.21, 22). Draw the lines, provide definition (what it is and what it is not), and stay in agreement with the Word of God.

Set the boundaries, borders, and limits of where money and resources will and will not go. Allocate, manage, and demarcate your personal resources and the resources of your ministries under the leading of the Holy Spirit. Show yourself faithful stewards in service to God.

We are in a war against Apollyon, king of destruction. The conflict is over the occupation of persons, positions, possessions, and

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power. Two kingdoms, the kingdom of Christ and the kingdom of Satan, vie for these four things. As the kingdom of Christ possesses what is rightfully Christ's, the kingdom of darkness is dispossessed. Dispossession is by the power of the Holy Spirit and truth working internally and invisibly (Luke 17.20, 21; John 4.23).

Dispossession means removing something from someone to possess as one's own, to take away and strip from, usually by ousting the current possessor. Stealing does this illegally; but dispossession does this legally. Dispossession is aggressive but biblical. (Proverbs 2.21, 22, Luke 8.18, Mt 25.28, 29; Is 49.24, 25, Ps 149) For example, when people are "saved," God translates them from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of God's dear Son. (Colossians 1.13)

Dispossession flows from demarcation, as we see in Isaiah 54.2: "Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes [re boundaries]. For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities [re dispossession]."

As God authorizes, His trustworthy servants will be able to establish boundaries, borders, and limits that will dispossess, possess, and occupy former territories held by Satan under his sway. This means the Holy Spirit will relocate (2 Sam 12.8-12, Deut 28.30-32, Is 39.7, 1 Kings 19.19-21, 1 Sam 16.21, 22, Luke 19.17-19); oust from position (Deut 33.29; Is 58.14), transfer resources, goods, and possessions (Is 60.5-9, Is 39.6, Ecc 2.26); and sway power struggles in your favor.

Be faithful, trustworthy, led by the Holy Spirit, seeking holiness before the Lord, and we will see many faithful to Christ dispossess the dysfunctional, the disorderly, and the territories of demonic entities in order that the kingdom of Christ will be enlarged and the glory of the Lord will come to cover the earth. Carry His heart and you will have His hand.

The Holy Spirit is moving with an even greater anointing and presence than we have seen. We hope you will participate as we press toward the mark of the high calling of Christ Jesus and find power and strength to abide in the Glorified One. Join us!



Here's a few of us at our recent fellowship dinner. Karen Moran of Child Evangelism Fellowship, Lighthouse Chapter, was our guest speaker and most informative. Did you know that about 85% of those calling themselves "born again" Christians received Christ before the age of 12? No one is too young to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ!



Sundays, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Celebrate Grace!

Rev. Jim Craig, Senior Pastor

Communion served first Sunday of the month

Sunday, May 17, join us before the worship service at 3:30 p.m. if you want to participate in a prayer strategy for our upcoming mission to Iceland and Greenland and for our nation as well.



Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

English Course of NT Book of John
Improving your ability to read and understand Scripture through
a study of English grammar in the gospel of John
With Rev. Jim Craig



Wednesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

“3.16: A Devotional Survey of the Bible”
A teaching on the whole counsel of God from Genesis to Revelation.
This month we begin covering Psalms, the Wisdom books, & Song of Solomon.
With Dr. Mary Craig



Fridays, 7:30 p.m.

“Who Is Jesus Christ?”
The Truth that sets people free!
Worship & Ministry of Holy Spirit in activating gifts,
anointing, healing, & deliverance follow Bible study
with Dr. Mary Craig

Special Events:



Saturday, May 23rd 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Picnic at Birch State Park off Sunrise Boulevard close to


the Fort Lauderdale Beach. (All this year we have been praying for "Dale's kids." Dale is a second grade teacher, and this is his end-of-the-year class picnic. We are joining up to meet the families for whom we have been interceding. We're in pavilions 1 and 2.) For the family.



Saturday, June 6th, 6:00 p.m. Fellowship dinner & Bingo (no gambling). Join us for our first Saturday Summer Social! Lots of free prizes and oodles of fun.



Barnabas Project: Next distribution in late June. We'll keep you posted on location. Have any items to donate? Bring them to Craighouse.

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Pastors:
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