



bloodline *network newsletter*

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IN THE FOURTH WATCH

*Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side ...and when he had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray ... alone ...But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now **IN THE FOURTH WATCH** of the night Jesus went to them. **MATTHEW 14:22-25***

Jesus went to His disciples **IN THE FOURTH WATCH** of the night—that period of time just before awakening when the conscious mind is aware but not quite in control.

There is a spirit of repose resting upon everything in the space between sleeping and waking. Free of cares and concerns our mind becomes very receptive to heavenly visitation—and we break through the thin veil separating heaven and earth to drift into a spiritual dimension where thoughts become one with God's will.

Each night God speaks to us in dreams—but the **LAST** dream of the night, just before awakening is usually the interpretation. The dream visually **IMPRINTS** God's instructions on our subconscious mind. We may dream the same dream over and over, night after night because it's preparing us in **HOW** to respond when the dream plays out in natural time.

= **THE FOURTH WATCH**

*Now **IN THE FOURTH WATCH** of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."*

The **FOURTH WATCH** is the 'morning watch' between 3AM and 6AM—the **LAST WATCH** of the night. Immediately after this **WATCH** the sun rises. History confirms that major transitions often occur **IN THE FOURTH WATCH** of the night. Some Biblical examples:

- Jacob wrestled with the Angel of the Lord until the ‘breaking of the day’ and received a blessing—he limped back to his country with a new name (Israel) and with renewed purpose.
- It’s the early hour of Israel’s deliverance from Egypt—Pharaoh sent Moses and the children of Israel out of Egypt as the day dawned.
- *“It came to pass IN THE MORNING WATCH that the Lord looked down upon the army of the Egyptians...”* In the LAST WATCH of the night God commanded Moses to stretch out his hand—first to command the waters to pile up so the Israelites could walk over on dry ground ... and then to release the sea—burying the Egyptians in a watery grave.
- IN THE FOURTH WATCH Jesus walked on water and revealed a secret portal into the miraculous.
- IN THE FOURTH WATCH the stone rolled away from the tomb to signify that Jesus rose from the dead—giving us victory over death, hell and the grave!

= **COMMAND ME**

And Peter answered Him and said, “Lord, if it is You, COMMAND ME to come to You on the water. So He said, “COME.” And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. **MATTHEW 14:28-29**

In my prayer time years ago, I looked out my window and asked God to take me to heaven, change me and set me down again prepared for ministry. He spoke one word to me, “COME.” But how?—I laughed at the audaciousness of ‘jumping’ into heaven. Opening my Bible to read the scripture for that day I turned to the passage that Jesus spoke the SAME WORD to Peter!

Peter not only recognized Supernatural Power—he wanted to PARTICIPATE in the EXPERIENCE. His ‘AHA’ moment came when he realized EVERYTHING Jesus commanded came to pass. If Jesus commanded him to walk on water, he could definitely walk on water ... so he called out to Jesus to make it happen.

Jesus’ command to Peter was one single word, “COME.” There’s no pleading ... no cursing the opposition ... there’s not even a pep talk to encourage Peter.

= **WORD POWER**

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. **ISAIAH 55:11**

The spoken COMMAND of Jesus ALWAYS happened!

Over and over Peter witnessed Jesus' spoken Word come to pass. He was there when a centurion asked Jesus to heal his servant saying, "*Speak the word and my servant shall be healed.*" The Roman officer understood AUTHORITY—that any command spoken by Jesus had to be accomplished. Jesus marveled at the Gentile's faith.

Empowered by His Father's AUTHORITY Jesus spoke commands and miracles happened. At His command Peter could walk on water as easily as the blind see and the lame walk.

= **A CONTRARY WIND**

And when Peter had come out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"
MATTHEW 14:29-30

Peter was a fisherman. It was common to experience turbulent storms on the Sea of Galilee. Something's very different that night—he's been given authority over gravity. So why did he fear the wind?

Is it possible that Peter EXPECTED calm seas—that the opposition caused him to doubt what he was doing, so he stopped?

Isn't that similar to what happens to us? We ask God to open a way for us to do the impossible, but when it happens—how often do we stop because there's turbulence or resistance? Like Peter, we thought a CONTRARY WIND meant we did something wrong ... or asked amiss.

The CONTRARY WIND taught Peter the value of 'enduring faith'—the confidence that "I can do this because Jesus said so." We stop struggling with the inconsequential and begin anticipating where our next step will take us. Enduring faith believes God's Word automatically happens—regardless of the contrary adversity.

= **TRANSITIONAL SHIFT**

And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got in the boat, the wind ceased. MATTHEW 14:31-32

Peter didn't blow his chance of walking on water—it's never too late if Jesus COMMANDS it. In the moment he sank, Jesus' outstretched hand kept him above water. Stepping back into the boat, the WIND CEASED, and the lesson was over.

Peter lived the dream—day after day he witnessed the demonstration of Divine Power through the ministry of Jesus Christ. But that day something was different ... Jesus could have walked on water anytime during His ministry—so why did He choose to walk IN THE FOURTH WATCH of the night?

The FOURTH WATCH became a portal. Peter boldly stepped into the arena of Divine Power—getting out of his ‘comfort zone’ he experienced a TRANSITIONAL SHIFT of AUTHORITY.

The Book of the Acts substantiates the divine shift of Authority. Peter and John walk past and a lame man. Peter took the man by the hand saying: *“Such as I have I give to you.”* The man LEAPED to his feet and WALKED into the Temple to praise God. An amazing portal opened into the miraculous through Peter for a man forbidden to ever enter the Temple because of his infirmity!

= **PORTAL BETWEEN DIMENSIONS**

You will see greater things than these.” And He said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.

JOHN 1:5-51

For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries. 1 COR 16:9

The FOURTH WATCH is a PORTAL between the dimensions. Jacob dreamed of a ladder that is Christ ... John the Baptist saw the heavens open and heard God speak while a dove descended upon Jesus the moment He came up out of the water at His baptism.

The supernatural manifested in Jesus ministry. He was THE WAY into the Holy of Holies and opened it for us to receive abundant grace and work miracles. IN CHRIST a portal opened into the spiritual tabernacle and angels minister to us.

The Apostle Paul saw a door and stepped into the effectual work of divine authority—miraculously blind eyes could see and deaf ears heard, he spoke enlightenment ...but there was great ADVERSITY too. At Ephesus, Demetrius led other silversmiths in a tumultuous manner crying for the goddess Diana ... stirring up the people against the truth. Paul never questioned the opposition. God intervened and the crowds were forced to dissipate.

= **DAWNING OF A NEW DAY**

As the flower opens its petals to receive the morning light, so open your soul more and more into the glorious light of truth. Soar upward upon the wings of aspiration; be fearless, and believe in the loftiest possibilities... and beautiful will be your spiritual experiences, and glorious the revelations that will enrapture your inward vision.

JAMES ALLEN

This generation has the FOURTH WATCH in the House of God. We stand in the gap of a new day--searching for what God does in the present. The time has come to walk into another dimension—to move in a new way in the spiritual realm.

God awakens the dawn IN THE FOURTH WATCH! This is our moment to arise and go forth in the power of the Most High... to conquer every foe in His Name ... “and shine—for His light has risen upon you! ...The Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you.” Give glory to the Almighty King of Kings!

Roger and Karen Roth are the set ministry of a local church in Northeastern Wisconsin. They are a ministry son of Dr. Hanby, and along with writing the Bloodline articles each month, they are directors of a portion of Dr. Hanby's ministry called THE FATHER'S HEART.

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