

July 2008

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against...
principalities... powers... rulers of darkness...
spiritual wickedness in high places” Ephesians 6:12



WHAT AN EXPERIENCE, TO PREACH THROUGH EPHESIANS
and follow Paul's profound explanation of God's plan
for the Church, and of the practical functioning of the church.
It took about a year and a half.

A HIGH POINT FOR ME WAS Paul's pointing out the spiritual strength of the church, in the continuous filling by the Holy Spirit of every believer, as this is worked out through worship, gratefulness and mutual submission, running through the Christian couple, the Christian family, the Christian work place. And then his warning that we are involved in a mighty spiritual battle, as Satan attacks God himself, trying to destroy God's plan for the founding of the Church on Christ and in Christ. This battle finally comes down to those constant, fiery attacks against every single Christian.

IF SATAN WERE ABLE TO WEAKEN (OR DESTROY, AS HE HOPES) THE CHURCH, God and Christ would be dishonored through the failure of all of us (or some of us) on the battle line. False doctrine, immorality, or superficiality and worldliness, in the leaders, in the pew or on the foreign field: tiredness, burn out, compromise, giving up are all real and present dangers.

SOME IMPORTANT AND THRILLING MINISTRY NOTES

MARIA TERESA'S LADIES CONFERENCES:

In a conference in the South, a mother who had been grieving and unforgiving for more than a year, for the stabbing-death of her 17-year old son by Mafia thugs, in retaliation for an “offence” by his older brother, found peace as she forgave them in her heart. In a conference in the north, with 250 women, many reminded Maria Teresa of her ministry in their lives over the years. One of the organizers had been ring-bearer in our wedding, 52 years ago. In another conference she saw a couple of missionaries whose ministry had been marred by their constant bickering, fighting and misunderstandings, with whom we had counseled and who now reported a new season of love and cooperation.

PREACHING AND TEACHING BY THE PRINTED PAGE:

A lady from southern Italy, with extreme personal problems, wrote to praise the Lord for the help received from Bill's booklet, Hope. Bill and Maria Teresa's book, Who Understands Me? Is now ready for publication.

REACHING THE MILLIONS:

We are working and planning to expand our ministry on internet this fall, to reach some of the millions who “surf” this vast information pool hoping to find answers to their personal problems. Please pray for wisdom.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your essential part in the Lord's ministry in Italy through us. As the battle continues, and the financial costs continue to rise, we can not continue without you.

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