TRUE TEST

Key promise:

68. The keys of humility, faith and receptivity are exceptionally appropriate when you need help in being open to shepherding. The keys of faith will give you comfort and peace that I'm in control, and remind you of My great love for you--that I won't let anything happen except what is for your good. The keys of humility will help you swallow your pride and remind you that you need this, you want to grow, and will make the sometimes bitter pill of correction much sweeter and easier to take. The keys of receptivity will help you really grasp the concept, the lesson that I want to give you through the situation, and not get stuck on minor details or distractions of the Enemy. Calling on them is a recipe for success and spiritual progress!

(Shooting Straight, Part 3 [#3501])

PSA.42:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the **help** of his countenance. Close your eyes My love, My sweet, My queen and rest your head upon My lap, to look upward at My eyes of love. They are deep pools of refreshing waters to swim in, they are love puddles for you to play in; they are enticing to say the least and much to be desired. I look upon your smallness and smile.

HEB.5:11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are **dull of hearing**.

HEB.5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

HEB.5:13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

You marvel when you hear of those within My own Family that speak as if they were babes again, needing milk and weak from lack of it. You marvel at this and wonder at your own weakness. The frame of man is nothing against the onslaughts of Satan. Even those that were strong in the days of yore; failing to partake of the strong meat of David; are now weak and broken vessels. They failed to acknowledge that their strength came from Me and My Word and that only in obedience lies their strength.

JOH.8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even **because ye cannot hear** my word.

And why cannot ye hear My Word? Because you failed to acknowledge that only in Me came your strength, not from the bed or from worldly pursuits, relationships or adventures.

When people **become lethargic, dull in spirit, compromised, and distanced from Me**, it usually isn't just in <u>one</u> part of their lives or limited to just a certain aspect of their walk with Me, but it's usually <u>across the board</u> in a sweeping effect.

124. The reason for this is that disobedience is usually the result of a lack of fear of Me. When you're walking strongly in fear of Me, you are motivated to obey, your conscience is easily pricked, and you make many, many good decisions each day, the right decisions--decisions of sacrifice, of bringing your flesh into subjection, of being the right sample, of denying yourself and putting Me and others first.

125. But when you become dull in the spirit through <u>repeated disobedience</u>, you begin to think that you can get away with it indefinitely. You take on the attitude that all things will continue as they are, that your actions don't really matter or make a difference to the way things go. You lose sight of the

big secret of life--that everything good in your life depends on having My blessing, and having My blessing depends on your obedience to Me and the Word.

126. When you lose sight of that truth, you lose true wisdom. Then there is only the carnal mind and **the blindness** and overconfidence that enter your life when you feel that there will never be consequences that you can do as you please and it will never come back to you in the form of loss, punishment, hardship, problems, sickness, accidents, and the many other ways your life can go downhill.

127. Often people don't make the connection between their problems and their wrong decisions, compromises, or disobedience. They think it's somehow just a fluke, or there's no cause-and-effect process in motion. They feel they're in a whirlwind of random events that are not connected or attached to anything they did or brought about. That is ridiculous, but that's the epitome of not feeling accountable, of not taking responsibility for your life and actions.

128. The longer someone is disobedient, the further this problem spreads in their life. The more someone feels they can "get away with" little sins and wrongdoings, the more their heart is set to do evil, because they feel there are no consequences. And pretty soon they sink deeper and deeper into compromise, until they're eventually compromising on things that were previously "untouchables," **Everything good in your life depends on having My blessing, and having My blessing depends on your obedience to Me and the Word.**

(Are You Robbing God? [#3461])

God's mind on the matter:

71. *(Jesus:)* What you need to realize is that I have put boundaries of obedience in place, both in the physical and the spiritual realms, for your own good. These are boundaries I ask you not to cross, because I want to keep you safe, to protect you, to help you fulfill My will. It does you no service when you step outside those boundaries thinking you know better. You're putting yourself in danger, whether physically or spiritually, and often you wind up suffering the consequences. Some of you are so dull in the spirit, you don't even see them as consequences. To you it's just the natural course of events, or just a "rough period." But the reality is that you're suffering the consequences of choosing to take yourself outside of the boundaries of My protection.

72. So when you're thinking and praying and making decisions, or even when you're just living life and not consciously making any big decisions, be mindful of the boundaries I've set. These are not to inhibit your freedom or to squelch your desires or make you less happy. These are boundaries to protect you. And so you need to learn to trust Me for that. When your emotions or desires are leading you outside those boundaries of protection, learn to recognize where that pull is coming from. It's not from Me. Even if it looks perfectly safe to you, that doesn't mean that it is.

73. You can confidently trust that My Spirit will not lead you outside of the bounds of safety that are for your good.

(Shooting Straight, Part 3 [#3501])

Apotheon - arch-demon of failure and ruin

61. *(Jesus:)* I will reveal to you another spirit that has been hindering you that you must also rid yourselves of through the power of the keys.
His is the realm of poverty and beggary, slothfulness in matters of business. He is the arch-demon of failure and ruin.

62. This evil spirit attacks both those of the world and My children. He especially fights you, My Endtime brides. He seeks to convince those who could have the best that they should settle for second best. **He screams lying vanities** in order to convince those who are handicapped in some way or who suffer loss that they are ruined and that they should give up and accept the low state they are in. He uses your natural weaknesses and the difficult situations you find yourselves in and plays upon them, **magnifying them**. He also works hard to convince you that you are comfortable where you are, that what you have is okay, that you shouldn't have to work to change anything, that it won't work anyway, and why bother, because it's not really necessary.
(You know what it's talking about here?... either that dumpy sad sack face spirit you are in or the "it's not fair" spirit so I won't do as you ask, because you won't give me what I want so I won't do what you want, and actually I can't even hear you asking me anymore anyway) He fights your faith and clouds your outlook and vision for My supply and the possibilities I lay before you.(you know…it's always going to be boring, nothing will ever change)

63. ***(Channel:)*** **I'm seeing this demon that's shaped like a big weight, very broad and heavy on the bottom, with two sets of arms.** With one set of arms he is pressing down on his prey, trying to keep them sinking lower and lower. Each time they sink lower he tries to make them very comfortable in their current position, so they won't want to climb out of it. And with the other set of arms he's shielding their eyes so that they can't look up, almost as if to convince them that there's nothing up there, or they shouldn't look up, it's too high for them.

64. He continues to push down on them, and then repositions things to make them comfortable in their current state. He is extremely heavy himself. His whole power is his weight and the weight he places on his victims. Each time they accept a lower standard or lower position, he loosens the weight a bit, trying to make them comfortable, and then slowly begins pushing again, until they are again sinking even lower.

65. ***(Jesus:)*** **This demon, Apotheon, works alongside Satan within one of the highest echelons and domains of netherworld power and importance--that of destroying faith.** He goes about the earth to and fro amongst the children of men weakening and undermining faith, courage, and hope; seeking always to press down, to push down, to oppress, to cover the eyes of those who would turn them upward toward Me where there is light, hope, and growth, and where there is always forward movement. He seeks to suffocate and weigh down man's spirit and will to fight on, to rise above circumstances and conditions; thus his domain is one of poverty, failure, and ruin.

66. Many amongst those who know Me not fall prey to his powers and suffocating weight, but with a vengeance and diabolical mission--and as Satan's personal apostle--does he seek after My Endtime brides with an unrivaled evil intent.

67. His grip is like unto that of a python--suffocating and paralyzing. He seeks to paralyze people's faith, so there is no movement, no forward motion, no vision, no desire or ability to rise above or change things for the better, no desire to fulfill My plan or perfect will. The coldness you experienced [while seeing the vision] is indicative of what happens when Apotheon's weight is heavy upon you and your faith is slowly drained from you--you lose your fire, your heat, and your drive, because faith fuels your fire!

68. This one's power is akin to that of lethargy, but his domain and dominion goes beyond even that

of lethargy, because he strikes at the core--the heart and spirit of man--where faith abides. His power and poison are particularly devastating and life-threatening, striking even My Own, My Endtime brides.

69. The antidote to drive this demon far from you?--Exposure, rebuking him by name, calling upon the power of the keys, and militantly going on the attack through feeding and fueling your faith with My Word, obeying My Word, putting on My mind, and putting your faith into action!

70. ***(Mama:)*** **As soon as I heard this evil one's name, the word "apathy" came to my mind.** Apathy is defined as "lack of enthusiasm or energy, lack of interest in anything, or the absence of any wish to do anything." When asking the Lord if this word has to do with Apotheon, He said:

71. ***(Jesus:)*** **Yes, this evil spirit is definitely the power behind the depression of spirit that is apathy.** He takes credit for the very sad, hopeless state of man when he is apathetic. **When man has no drive, no energy, no vision, no hope of change, no initiative to take action and make things better for himself or others; when he becomes past feeling, to the point of being dead in spirit and mind, without any forward movement, paralyzed in complacency, this is the work of Apotheon.** (3400:167-189)

Our spirit help:

72. ***(Angel:)*** **My name is Arcothon**. I have come to see you through this Time of the End and to teach you the art of **warfare.** You wonder why my name sounds so familiar to Apotheon. I am Apotheon's archenemy, the warrior angel designed to defeat Apotheon.

73. Arcothon is my name, for I fight through fire. I fight through the words that the Master gives me, and I turn them into fireballs that fight **and defeat him.** Apotheon is the archdemon of apathy, laziness, waiting, sitting, dragging down, draining the lifeblood out of you. You know the various manifestations of Apotheon, but you do not know my manifestations.

74. I am the opposite of Apotheon. I am fire, I am attacking, I am fight! I am a warring angel designed to fight; that is all I do. I fight through the weapon of prayer, of prophecy, of the keys, of hearing my Master's instructions, and of casting out Apotheon.

75. My Master's words are pure energy, pure light. I fight through light of the purest form. The purest energy known to man is light, yet I fight with an even greater energy, a purer energy, even purer than light. It is an energy that you do not fully comprehend as yet, for it is the energy of the power of God. This is the energy that runs through my body and through my veins and out my hands when I fight. I do not fight with conventional weaponry, with swords; I fight with pure energy, missiles of pure energy that nothing and no one can defeat!

76. Yea, you children of David can defeat Satan himself, and in time, the Spirit of God flowing through all of you collectively will win a great and mighty victory. All you need to do is to learn how to become a clean receptacle and a conduit of the power of God, and enough of it will flow through you that nothing on Earth will stand before you. For nothing of Earth can stand before even a small portion of the power of God.

77. So that is what you need to do: Allow me to help teach you to open yourself more to the power of God. Receive my help, allow me to teach you the art of war. Let our wonderful Husband, the King of the universe, the Source of all power, possess you. That is being a conduit of the power of God.

78. I am not the power; I am only a teacher to teach those who want to learn how to become a conduit. And once you link up with the Master, the Holy Ghost power will flow through you in unparalleled measure, and you will feel the power of the Spirit of God flowing through you.

79. This is the art of war, and it is this full possession by our Master, King of the universe, Holder of the powers, Source of the power, that will cause you to be effective in your warfare and become an unstoppable, unbeatable source. (3433:295-304)

Arakan - chief demon of confusion and depression, hinderer of prophecy

80. ***(Jesus:)*** **Arakan is a chief demon of confusion and depression.** Call him out by name and do not let him hide in the recesses of your mind. Resist him by name, rebuke him by name, and he will flee! He is strong in his own might, but he is nothing compared to the power of the keys, which must be used to rebuke him.

81. Say the words, "I resist you, Arakan, in the power of the keys! Begone!" and he will flee. He is not a confrontational devil; he prefers the shadows and the dark muddles, like an octopus who clouds the waters in order to escape. When you begin to fight him, he will attempt to cloud your mind and confuse you. He is a chief among demons of confusion and depression. He stands under Oplexicon and Satan and seeks to hinder this project.

82. This is one of the principal methods of attack against spiritual powers--call them out by name. Ask their name, and they are bound to identify themselves to you so that you can attack them. Ask and you will receive their names, and I will use their exposure to help you win the victory. Fight against Arakan--the muddler of channels, the clouder of minds and confuser of thoughts. Break his power over you through the keys. Rebuke him by name, and do not let his confusion reign over you.

83. ***(Jesus:)*** **Prophecy is one of your most important weapons of the spirit.** The Family must be able to hear from Me, either through their own personal channel or through someone else's channel. It's one of the most important links you have with Me.

84. Arakan fights all channels and try to confuse and muddy their mind.

85. He first enters with thoughts of discouragement or depression, telling you that you can't be a good channel, this is too hard, you can't hear from Me about this, you won't get it right, and trying to convince you that in the end you're going to be even more discouraged because you didn't get a very good message. He hits channels before they sit down to hear from Me and tries to belittle, discourage, and confuse their thoughts. It's a serious attack of Arakan, the demon of confusion, when it comes to anything to do with channeling, speaking, or delivering My message.

86. Arakan and others have been unleashed to do their dirty work throughout the Family. He's prepared to attack anyone who needs to focus and concentrate on My work--any channel, teacher, speaker, writer, editor, programmer, anyone who needs to give a presentation, counsel people, or answer questions--in short, anyone who needs to have their presence of mind and clear thinking. That's his power, to confuse and muddle, and as a result, cause discouragement and depression.

87. The power you have is greater! Call on the power of the keys, rebuke any demon by name, and their effect on you will be destroyed. It's My promise. Stand on it! Hold the keys in your hand and rebuke the Enemy, and he will flee. The keys of the Kingdom will destroy the power of Arakan. Call on the keys and send their full impact to destroy any demon of Hell. As soon as you claim the keys and rebuke that demon by name, your thoughts will be clear, your mind won't be muddled, and you'll be able to do the work I put before you. (3419:16-17,19-29)

Our spirit help:

88. [Prayer:] I rebuke and cast out the demon Arakan--the chief demon of confusion and depression. Thank You, darling Lover, for the F.A.F. (Fairy Angel Fighters) who assist Illuminus in fighting Arakan. The buzzing of the wings of these fairies causes Arakan to be confused. Their whispers of truth and encouragement bring defeat to the depression of this demon. (3455:202-203)

Lethargy - one of the Enemy's principal weapons

89. *(Mama:)* I want to share one point that is a key as to why some of you haven't made more progress in the spirit, in spite of so many answers and direction being covered quite extensively in past Letters. A message from Dad on a different subject caught my attention when he said:

90. *(Dad:)* There is a spirit of lethargy in the Family that's killing people's progress and effectiveness for the Lord. It's a complacency with the way things are! The Lord is tired of it! It's time to wake up and get moving! It's time to change! The Lord is upset with some of our folks, and I am too, for their lack of the fear of the Lord!

91. *(Mama:)* I asked the Lord to tell us more about this "spirit of lethargy in the Family that is killing people's progress and effectiveness for the Lord." Here is Dad with some more insight on this:

92. *(Dad:)* Don't just be hearers of the Word, but doers also! That's the key. Some of you have slid back into your ruts and gotten comfortable and aren't interested in stirring yourselves up. You're hearers of the Word, but not doers. You've ceased being revolutionaries and have started to become like the churches. You're tired of the fight; you've stopped fighting.

93. Lethargy is a spirit of the world, of the Devil, and he's lulling everyone to sleep. He's going to be able to walk right on stage when his time arrives and take over, because there'll hardly be anyone to say he shouldn't! He will have lulled almost everyone to sleep and taken care of all the avenues of possible resistance, and the world will let him have his way.

94. Lethargy is one of the Enemy's principal weapons. He doesn't have to use a show of force to terrorize the Lord's children and take them down and destroy their effectiveness for Him. He's going to come in very subtly. He's going to come in quietly, unobtrusively, sneakily.

95. Since you are in the Last Days, you will find more and more that you'll be fighting some of these spirits that plague the world. The Lord has promised to keep you from them, but there is a condition to that promise. "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in His sight, and wilt give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of

these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee" (Exodus 15:26).

96. The Lord isn't just referring to physical diseases here, but spiritual diseases. And the cure for those diseases is to listen to Him and obey what He tells you to do. The Lord needs you, His soldiers, to not just hear His Word but do His Word. He needs you to fight!

97. The Lord will heal those of you who are afflicted with this spirit of lethargy and any other spiritual problem. Take a stand against the Enemy and his attacks and get delivered. Watch out for the spirit of lethargy! Don't let it ruin your effectiveness for the Lord! (3361:85-93)

Our spirit help:

What Can Be Done to Get Rid of It?
(Jesus:)
98. • Each person search your heart. Stir yourself up. Pray and seek Me. Hear from Me. Ask Me specific questions, like:
--In what ways am I lethargic spiritually?
--What wrong influences have come into my life as a result?
--What wrong attitudes do I have that I need to change?
--What have I been avoiding stepping out and doing? What new moves of the spirit have I been hesitant to put INTO ACTION?
--What should I do to stir myself up more and keep myself stirred up in spirit?

99. • Some of you need to ask Me to do something major in your life that will shake you up and wake you up to where this world is at and where things are headed. You should pray a "whatever it takes" prayer, really. You should say, "Lord, do whatever You need to do in my life to open my eyes to the spiritual warfare raging around me. Take the blinders off my eyes. Remove the root of this problem, whatever it is and wherever it came from, by helping me have an experience that will snap me out of my rut of spiritual lethargy."

100. • Fill yourself with good healthy doses of My Word and hearing from Me in prophecy. There's nothing lethargic or laid back about My Word. It is a sharp, two-edged sword, discerning the thoughts and intents of the heart. If you're digging into My Word, and praying for a hunger, and praying that I will "open your eyes that you will behold wondrous things," that's just what you'll get!

101. My Words, the words I have given through your Father David, through your Queen Maria and King Peter, and through My voice of prophecy to you personally are alive, quick and powerful, and will not leave you unchanged! If you've been reading them for years and haven't been stirred up or changed by them, that's not the fault of the words; it's the fault of your own spiritual lethargy. Just reading the Word in itself, meanwhile daydreaming or doubting, is not going to cure you. But reading the Word after praying desperately that it will MOVE you, SHAKE you up and STIR you to ACTION is a large part of the cure! And you show by your reaction to the Word how much it has stirred you, get some living Word flowing out of that pen in your hand. Dig deep into My jewel mines and bring out some bright and shining truths that will cut the enemy to the heart and expose the darkness that you have allowed to infiltrate your life.

102. • Heighten your awareness of the Endtime. Read up about the signs of the times and open your eyes to what's going on around you. Some of you have lost the vision of "redeeming the time, for the days are evil." Because I haven't come back as soon as you thought I would, you have been tempted to fall into the deluded reasoning that "all things continue as they were" and that nothing's changing. Talk about delusion! Talk about blindness! Open your eyes! Look at the world today and what it's becoming! It has become!! It's happened little by little, gradually, so that you could hardly tell. But think for a minute about how the world is today compared to 10, 20, 30, 40 or however many years your life goes back. Think about the horrors occurring today that are so widespread they're not even alarming anymore! That is the most alarming thing of all--when horrible things happen and the world (comprised of billions of people like YOU) just sits by and doesn't say or do a thing. You've let that spirit in, that spirit of Satan that has pervaded the world, and now it's time to kick it out! Let it have no place in you. (3361:187-192)

103. [Prayer:] We call on Styrian [Sty-REE-an], who is sent to bring a whirlwind of destruction to the demon Lethargy and his ilk. She is filled with good ideas that bring forth spiritual progress, which are manifested not just in spiritual growth, but in physical fruit. She is filled with an all-consuming power of the Spirit of God, and the demon Lethargy has no escape when confronted by her. She is a whirlwind of positive spiritual activity. (3455:196)

(Know Your Enemy - Compilation)

Read You Are Your Own Worst Enemy

63. ***(Jesus:)*** **The way some of you shun help is a sad picture, and is indicative of just how far you have gone in your quest for freedom and liberty from the law.** In the Family's drive to freedom and living according to their faith, many have succumbed to the lie that this includes concrete matters of My Word concerning receiving instruction, counsel, and, yes, even the big bad word "correction."

64. He who refuses counsel is a fool. It is pride and the spirit of pride that tells people to reject personal shepherding of sensitive matters such as those dealing with matters of the heart.

65. Pride is the great enemy, and pride will in effect cause you to lose out in the long run, because you won't get the help and shepherding you desperately need. In many cases, the matters of the heart such as relationships, marriages and sex need even more shepherding than any other type of situation.

66. It's time to break those chains of pride, realize that as My Bride you are all One Wife, and with that realization, remember that I am the great marriage counselor and I have a vested interest in seeing that My Bride is happy. If I have to direct My counsel to you through those that are in a position of leadership, your mates or even your peers, then I will do so. If all involved are seeking Me and doing their parts, then it will only help and bring good fruit.

(Shooting Straight, Part 3 [#3501])

If we don't receive the truth, we are left to doubts and delusions.

Matthew 13:15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

During the time I was yielding to the Enemy and going through horrendous mind battles, I couldn't

forgive, I couldn't forget. I knew that my resentment about some of these different things was holding me back. I had major prayer against bitterness and resentment three times within a year and a half. Still, these battles in my mind would come back again. So what was the answer for me? Nobody could get through to me. They said I was such a hard case, and I must have been.

I was lying on my bed one day and the Lord said in as clear a voice as I'd ever heard, "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, for they are spiritually discerned" (1Cor.2:14). At the same moment, a picture of Job flashed in my mind -- Job sitting on a pile of ashes. I felt quite the same as him. When I heard that verse and I saw that picture I knew that what God had done to Job was not wrong. There was nothing unfair in what He had done to Job.

At that moment God set me free. I saw that what He was putting me through and all that had happened to me was not bad!

There was nothing to forgive and nothing to forget, but it was all good! It had all happened to help me in the long run. It was just as though I had been sitting on one side of a table with all my evidence stacked up to defend my case, but when I got up and I walked around and I sat down on the other side of the table, I could see why I was wrong. It was because I was looking at things in the natural, in the carnal mind. I was looking at things the opposite of the way God saw them, and I was wrong!

Now a foundation principle in my life is to want to see when I am wrong. I can still be so sure about how I see things, and I come on with strong conviction. But when somebody sits me down, looks me in the eye (like Ruthie) and says, "You are coming on too strong. You're looking at this the wrong way." Then, Lord helping me, I want to see it, I want to grasp it. I can accept that I could be wrong. It's not devastating. I feel like, "Wow! The Lord has set me free again. This is another victory in my life -- to see where I can be wrong!" To me that is very valuable. It is something that I don't want to lose.

I have recently been able to use these victories in my life as I talked to different people who have been through heavy things in their lives, folks who had left the Family because they felt they were right. They felt that others had wronged them, and they'd held on to that bitterness. They hadn't gotten the victory over it.

But it got through to them though, when I told them my story, which was similar to theirs. I shared how now I wanted to see where I was wrong and I wanted the Lord to set me free. I told them how I'd cried out to the Lord with all my heart for Him to help me to see things His way. And that He had delivered me and set me free and changed my life. It brought tears to their eyes. People asked me to pray for them right then, to pray they'd be delivered and set free.

It's so important to see God's hand in our lives that it is God Who allows things to happen, that it's nothing we can blame people for. It really doesn't have that much to do with people. They are only a tool or a channel for something that the Lord allows, so that He can bring good out of it all, a lesson, and a greater victory in our lives.

Spiritual Blindness and the Veil

A key, fitting, but rather deep passage that you may find interesting is 2 Corinthians chapter 3. A significant point here is that many Jews couldn't even hear or understand the words of Moses, because their minds were blinded and a veil was over their hearts. *But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the Old Testament; which veil is done away in Christ. But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart (2Cor.3:14-15).* This blindness and veil remained, hindering them hearing and believing the Words of Jesus and also those of Paul. (See Jn.9:40-41.) [Blindness only comes when looking at self, stop looking at self and look at Me and My Word and you will see. My Word is a light unto your path and a lamp unto your feet. Take that road of light, the light of My Word and you will find your way in the darkness that surrounds the whole world.]

In this same way, many Christians are unable to see and accept new truths from God, or through the prophets He sends. I experienced this blindness and veil on my heart towards certain things the Lord and others were trying to help me see about myself and what the Lord wanted to do in my life. I was very much like Job: unable to see his major sin of self-righteousness, while seeing his good points and trying so hard to defend himself. Finally only God could get through to Job by a direct encounter.

That encounter with God opened Job's eyes, and he saw immediately that only God was righteous and all that He had done to him was not bad, wrong or unfair, but a part of His plan, done for a purpose, in love, with hope of better days ahead. Wow! In one moment, Job abandoned the opinions and stand that he had been arguing for throughout almost the whole Book! He suddenly had his blinders removed and could see clearly in the light of God and His Truth.

I don't fully comprehend this spiritual blindness and this veil, but I know that I had it and it happened to me. And I certainly knew the moment that He took it away, when I could say, "Once I was blind, but now I see." It certainly stands out as a milestone in my life and walk with the Lord. After that I did a study about this blindness and veil in the Bible and the Letters, looking for examples and clues to understanding it. I wanted to know how and why it happened, and how it was removed.

There are certainly plenty of examples and evidence of it in the Word. Here are just a few Bible references on the subject:

It seems that blindness and self-righteousness are often mentioned together: *For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them (Mat.13:15). (See also Mat.13:13-17 and Mat.23.) "And this can only be accomplished through the path of humility, humbly accepting that you are wrong, and more often than not, wrong in most things, how can a man not be wrong in his view of life if he is carnal-minded. Yes only a man that is heavenly minded, one who has put on the mind of Christ is humble enough to realize he cannot not of himself do anything, but it is Christ in him that bring understanding and light."*

In Rom.10:1-3, it mentions establishing their own righteousness as one of the causes of Israel's blindness: *Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.*

Paul goes on to warn believers about this blindness in Eph.4:17,18, and mentions how our understanding can become darkened: *This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.*

.4:20-32 is a very helpful section and contains the solution: *And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and … put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. (Eph.4:23-24) In other words put on the mind of Christ, mind meld with Him, using the keys to attain heavenly thought power and rise above the carnal mind power. The new weapons were given that we may have freedom from the ways of man and the world.*

(Now That He's Gone! [#292])

105. Over the years the Americans have lost their closeness to Me and the ability to discern and feel things out. Only those who have been in evil religious practices on the darker side see your anointing and feel there is something different. The rest are asleep, unless the Enemy wakes them. He's continually dulling their senses and causing them to sleep. Then he awakens them from their slumber

through some action, some event, some cause to bring them together to follow his impulses and his reactions.

106. Through the years, the Americans and My Christian children there have been desensitized to the voice of My Word to them directly through spirit helpers, and they have been desensitized to the Word spoken even by My prophets. Now they're more in the Enemy's camp than My camp--even My Own Christian children. My Own children who know Me have been too long in the affairs of the world, coupled with the love of riches, so that My Word has been choked out. Their ears have become dull of hearing and their eyes have become closed and in need of opening. They have fulfilled the prophecy I gave to John in Revelation about the Laodicean church, the Endtime bride who was blind and in need of eye salve.

107. This is the bride who was not ready for My coming and did not keep her lamp trimmed and full of the oil of My Spirit and the fear and love of My Word. But it has happened unto them as of old--the sow has gone back to her wallowing and the dog returns to his vomit. And now, but for some great awakening and shaking in the land, I cannot look to these children of Mine to accomplish much in the Endtime. Some will wake, but many will be caught in the AC trap. And so it has happened, now 20 years into the future America is on the brink of collapse. Many American Family members are indeed asleep having ignored the warnings of My David year after year, those that went back many years ago are now deep within the system and are blinded to the sins of that wicked and adulterous generation. The trap has already closed upon them and their sins. It will take a miracle of My love to set them free. However many of them do not even desire to be set free. Woe Woe Woe a nation that has forgotten their God, in one day death, destruction and ruin.

(China's Hour! [#3273])

True Test
Lead vocal: Vas
Music: Vas
Lyrics: Vas
Producer: Vas

Play Song

Verse 1
I find myself thinkin' and wonderin', "What do I really want?"
I find myself wishin' that I was given a lot more then I've got.
It's really kinda silly, and I'm ashamed to say this even entered my mind,
But I can be tempted, and I can think and wonder 'bout thoughts of this kind.

Verse 2
On a good day, it's clear to me that I should do more then just feed myself;
But on a bad day, I start thinkin', "What's wrong with just bein' like everyone else?"
It's plain to see it's clear to me that I cannot keep what I can't use,

But if I give what I can't keep, then I'll gain what I can't lose.

Chorus 1
True test of my
Values. Where do I stand?
Is my house on the rock, or is it
Sinkin' in sand? Can I
See the big picture? Can I
See what's to come? Is my
Treasure in Heaven? Or am I
Blind, deaf, and dumb?

Verse 3
Maybe I've been tempted, and maybe I've wanted to have more fun,
But when I stop and think about it, and after all is said and done,
I've lived like a millionaire, can't compare to most people I know.
And even if I hadn't, can't leave my destiny-I know I can't go.

Chorus 2
True test of my
Values. Where do I stand?
Is my house on the rock, or is it Sinkin' in sand? Can I
See the big picture? Can I
See what's to come? Is my
Treasure in Heaven? Or am I
Blind, deaf, and dumb?

Verse 4
So I take it on the chin, I take it with a grin,
Then haul my fist in the Bad Boy's face.
May try to tempt me, may try to please me
With a line of luxury legs in lace.
But I am no deserter, I am no flirter with the riches of this world.
Take a hike, Punk! I'm gonna junk you along with your material girl. Huh!

Chorus 3
True test of my
Values. I know where I stand.
My house is on the rock, not
In the stinkin' sand. Can I
See the big picture? Yes, I
Can see what's to come. My
Treasure's in Heaven, not a
Mere earthly sum.

True Test