

DECISIONS

(The following is a dream/revelation that was delivered by Pastor Bogan on 12/3/23. This dream contains a relevant and pertinent message to those in our congregation.)

“It was WINTER and I was in what looked like a LOG CABIN.”

This dream is set in “winter” time. As stated in previous dreams, **winter** often represents *a time of great hardship and difficulty*.

Mark 13:18

18 And pray ye that your flight be not in the winter.

Jesus is making the point that traveling is difficult in winter (in hard times). In our dream the point seems to be “remaining in the cabin is difficult in winter.” Here the **log cabin** *represents a place of refuge* (or the Church).

Revelation 12:6

6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God...

“I was in a room that had a FIREPLACE and TWO DOORS that were adjacent to each other. One of the doors was OPEN and it led to a COMMON SPACE. The other door led OUTSIDE.”

First, let’s talk about these **two doors**. The door that led to the **outside** *represents a return to the world*. The door that led to the **common area** represents the fellowship of the saints. Also, this door was **open** to show that *God gives access and opportunities of service to those who are faithful!*

Revelation 3:8–9

8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. 9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

Not everyone in the Church (cabin) is a “Jew” or faithful. The faithful are being revealed by the way they respond to trials. This is why there’s a *fireplace* in this room. The **fireplace** *represents fiery trials*. Moreover, we are determining which door we’re taking by the way we respond to these trials. Every response

is bringing us closer and closer to one of these doors! (We're either getting closer to the open door, or closer to the exit door.)

“I was sitting on a bed with a man I didn't know. His name was Matt RIFE and he is a COMEDIAN. He asked me to sleep with him. I DECLINED and told him I didn't do that on the FIRST DATE.”

This encounter with “Matt” represents a test. It's not simply a test to see who's giving in to fornication. It's a test to see who's giving up their attention. Notice that this man is a *comedian*. A **comedian** *amuses people*. In other words, their job is to *distract people from thinking*.

This is a common tactic from the devil, and this can be seen by the comedian's name. His name is Matt Rife. **Rife** means *something common or widespread*, especially something harmful. This may be an indication that this form of fornication is far more common than what we commonly know as fornication!

1 Corinthians 10:7

7 Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

This verse is pointing back to when Israel was in the wilderness and they began to play and fall into idolatry. (The word “play” means to be amused!) Moreover, Israel fell into this sin after Moses (the Law) was absent for an extended period of time. Similarly, we too will fall into sin whenever we go long periods without thinking on God's word (i.e. being amused).

“[After I declined his invitation for sex], Matt left the room for a DRINK OF WATER. After this a CO-WORKER, Alex Mercado, entered the room. She was having a tough time and wanted me to WALK WITH HER.”

After she rejected Matt's invitation, he went for a drink of water. Going for a **drink of water** *represents how the devil will oftentimes take a break after we have successfully resisted him*. But, this is only for a short season.

Luke 4:13

13 And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

In our dream, the encounter with “Alex” represents another test. This test would be different from the first one. For example, Matt was a *stranger*. Alex, on the other hand, was a *familiar* friend. (We often know what to say to strangers, but do we have the courage to say the same things to family?).

Also, the name **Alex** means *defender (or champion) of mankind*. Therefore, walking with Alex represents walking in the counsel of those who encourage you to trust in someone other than God. This is proven by what we read next!

“[As I walked with her], we walked along a winding COBBLESTONE road and ended up at POPEYES.”

Popeye is a cartoon character with oversized arms. Therefore, **Popeye** represents someone who trusts in the arm of their flesh.

Jeremiah 17:5

⁵ Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

The cobblestone road speaks to this same point. **Cobblestone** is what you put on roads to make it easier for horses to travel.

Psalm 147:10–11

¹⁰ He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: He taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man. ¹¹ The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him, In those that hope in his mercy.

God doesn't want us trusting in ourselves. He wants us to “fear Him” (trust in Him). In fact, this is what being in the wilderness (cabin) is all about— learning to trust God for salvation!

Matthew 4:1, 3–4

¹ Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. ³ And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. ⁴ But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

The devil tempted Jesus to make His own bread or save Himself. However, Jesus responded by saying, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.” To understand what Jesus truly meant by these words, we must go back to the Book of Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 8:2–3

² And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, *and* to prove thee, to know what *was* in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. ³ And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every *word* that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

God is here reminding Israel that you need more than food or money to survive. He brought them to a place where all the food they brought with them from Egypt ran out. Also, all the wealth that they carried from Egypt also did not benefit them. It eventually caused them to commit idolatry. Again, none of this was by accident. God suffered them to hunger that they might learn that it's through His word that we live.

To make it in this “cabin” we’re going to have to learn to trust God, and not the strength and wisdom of man. We’re going to have to stop traveling to Popeyes. But, to do this we’re going to have to stop giving ourselves over to entertainment. We’re going to have to stop fellowshiping and walking with the world, regardless of how close they may be to us. We’re going to have to get with the company of the faithful and learn to live by the words which proceed from the mouth of God!