

## “LED UP”

I want to thank the Old Union School committee for their confidence in me and I hope like Paul to the Romans I can impart some gift unto you preachers that we all can be blessed by it. As a Missourian with a show-me-first backwoods philosophy I was skeptical of Old Union a preacher's school until I attended and heard in person Elder Calvin Perrigo's message "Holy Spirit Placed Pastors." By his demonstration of the Spirit and Power of God in his delivery I knew the Lord was in this place. My topic is "Led Up" and taken from Matthew 4:1KJV "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil." My reading lesson if I get around to it is Genesis 24KJV. Jesus is a good example to follow. The concept of being led up of the Spirit is a biblical doctrine. The church in its beginning was led up of the Spirit. Having a prayer meeting choosing a replacement for Judas than on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Ghost was introduced to the baptized believers they were led up and spake as the Spirit gave them utterance. There was Peter who lifted up his voice being led up of the Spirit he declared not from a notepad but from the Old Testament scriptures how this Jesus whom they crucified and died rose again was the Messiah and the Prophet Moses spoke of and advised hear him. The concept of prayer and being led up of the Spirit can be seen practiced throughout the acts of apostles. In Acts Six, when the church picked the seven men full of the Holy Ghost honest and having a good report without. They prayed and was led up of the Spirit in their selection. The Apostle Paul preached the same concept of being led up of the Spirit when he preached in Rom 8:14KJV "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." All of God's preachers should be *led up* as was Christ in the wilderness. Many Jews in attendance heard Peter preach condemned they repented. James, in Acts 15:13 KJV was led up of the Spirit and preached before the brethren gathering over the issue of circumcision. A division occurred regarding salvation must be confirmed by the tradition of circumcision. James cried out Brethren, "hearken unto me" preaching lay no greater burden on the gentiles who have been saved as we. The Apostle Paul preached in his first letter to the Corinthians 1:1& 4 KJV "And I

brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. And my speech and my preaching were not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of Spirit and of power." Every lawfully God-called preacher has his own distinct personality and spirit-filled DNA, if you will. Some of us lift up our voices like Peter and others like James, the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; whom Jesus surnamed them Boanerges Sons of thunder. As did Big Heart the Mandan Cherokee in Florida who dubbed me preacher with powerful voice of the great Windago or Spirit. Strong's concordance describes Boanerges in Hebrew meaning "sons of commotion" which my adversary in Jamaica has labeled me. The Holy Spirit knows our personality and DNA and if we are led up as Christ we will be the kind of chosen vessel the Lord wants us to be. Some of my brethren here today may preach boldly like Paul and others softly like Timothy and Titus. And then others with the compassionate voice like that of Luke. Some are bald head like the electrifying Don Watts. Some like Brother Moran a Preacher-Teacher and others not as ugly as Don Curtis. We should all be prayed up, studied up, then led up of the Spirit. Preaching the written word and not just what we have heard preached. I would not recommend to young God-called men a commentary until they burn the midnight oil and get scripturally minded then he can identify fiction from truth. In 1 Co 1:26 Apostle Paul points whom God calls to preach "not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many nobles are called." The disciples were called unlearned men by the religious leaders and took notice they had been with Jesus. Brethren, I want that kind of analysis of my preaching that people will feel the power in it and take notice I had been with Jesus. When the Lord blessed in the early years in Jamaica and the old and young were gloriously being saved. The other foreign missionaries asked for a copy of my mission program and I replied my missionary plan can't be copied this kind comes from praying, spiritually fasting, and being led up of the Spirit. However, the closest to a missionary plan I found is in my reading lesson in Genesis 24. I will not read it all to save time but point excerpts we would all be wise to follow. The main characters are Abraham, the old man, his eldest servant, and Rebecca. Abraham asks an oath of his eldest servant to

promise him to go find a wife for his son Isaac back in his native land of Mesopotamia. To calm any doubts Abraham assures his eldest servant Ge 24:7 “The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, unto thy seed will I give this land; *he shall send his angel before thee*, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence.” How many have you have the God of Abraham send his angel before your mission work. I have, the year before I removed to Jamaica I spent every Wednesday, some Fridays, Saturday, Sunday and Sunday Night and here at Old Union Ministers School begging you to pray the Lord speedily send me a Jamaican to work with. Many you know the rest of the story I found Bro Dwen Gritton, my Jamaican Apollos whom was saved in March, the same March I gathered with you brethren here at Old Union in 1996. Tell me the Lord did not send his angel before me when he burdened my heart to leave my country and go the land he would shew unto me. Getting back to our reading lesson Ge 24:12-15 The eldest servant said, “O LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham. Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water: And let it come to pass, the damsel to whom I shall say, let down the pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac, thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master. And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder. And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up. And the servant ran to meet her, and said, let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher. And she said, drink, Drink, my lord: and she hasted, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels. And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the Lord had made his journey prosperous. And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that man took a golden ring of half shekel weight, and two bracelets for her

hands of ten shekels weight of gold; And she said, I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, which she bare unto Nahor.

She said moreover unto him, We hath both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in. And the man bowed down his head and worshiped the Lord. And he said, blessed be the Lord God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the Lord led me to the house of my master's brethren. Led up was Abraham's servant. Prayers out on the mission field much like Abraham's eldest servant when I knew the Lord had prospered my way, I prayed again like the servant and thanked the Lord for prospering my way. As I close I want to quote from Isaiah 52:7KJV. Jesus used this same scripture to the Jews in the temple to announce that he was the fulfillment of that prophecy. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Brethren strive to be prayed up studied up then led up when we go preach and teach.