

January 2026

Dear Brethren:

Greetings to you all. Thank you for your prayers on my behalf as you are aware of my age and of the infirmities that a great number of years entail, as we are told in Ecclesiastes, chapter 12. In spite of my physical disabilities, I greatly enjoyed the beautiful Feast of Tabernacles that we had.

This *Monthly Letter* is based on a sermon given on the Last Great Day of the Feast of Tabernacles 2018 in Kandersteg, Switzerland.

Let us begin with a statement of the Apostle Paul:

But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:13–14).

Salvation will be offered to all those who will live under the authority of God's government during the Millennium—a thousand-year period represented by the seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles. The eighth day, the Last Great Day, pictures the time when God resurrects billions of human beings and calls them to live according to His principles.

But you, my brothers and sisters, were chosen from the beginning to be entrusted with responsibilities in tomorrow's world. Let us consider three examples that will help us to understand how God has been working in our lives.

Let us begin with Moses. Pharaoh had given the order for every newborn boy of the people of Israel to be destroyed. A mother hid her baby for three months, and then she put him in an ark of bulrushes that she laid in the flags (Exodus 2:1–4).

Verses 5 to 10 show that the hand of God was on that child from his birth. For the first three months of his life, he was protected, whereas many other baby boys were being killed. Then God saw to it that the daughter of Pharaoh found the baby, had compassion on him, and had him nursed by a Hebrew woman, who was his mother. Once the child was weaned, he grew up and was raised in the household of Pharaoh.

In verses 11 to 15 of Exodus 2, we find quite another turning point in Moses' life. In order to stay alive, Moses had to leave the comfort of the palace without knowing where he could settle. He sat down by a well in the land of Midian. And through circumstances Moses became a shepherd in that land. It was a big change in his life. After having been raised and educated at the court of Pharaoh, Moses wound up keeping a flock.

We see how, from the beginning, God protected and prepared the man whom He had purposed to give a great commission. In the course of time, God revealed Himself to Moses and said: "You will bring my people out of Egypt." That was the last thing indeed that Moses wanted to hear. He expressed his fear and his refusal. God then explained the scope of the mission and reassured Moses: "Certainly I will be with you." Moses kept trying to persuade God that he did not have the capability to fill such a role. However, God was determined to bring to pass what He had purposed. Finally, Moses took on the appointment. As indicated by the sequence of events, the task was not easy. There were many obstacles, and God had to encourage Moses again and again. Ultimately, Moses did the work for which God had chosen him and he was faithful to God until his death.

What made Moses hold fast until the end? The Apostle Paul answers:

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. *By faith* Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. *By faith* he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. *Through faith* he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. *By faith* they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned (Hebrews 11:23–29) [emphasis mine].

Subject to human nature, Moses was reluctant at first. But once he had committed to his mission, he did not look back. He endured, he persevered. By faith, he fulfilled his responsibilities until the end of his life. An entrance into the Kingdom of God will be granted to Moses (Matthew 17:1–3; Hebrews 11:26).

Next, let us see the example of the Apostle Paul:

And Saul was consenting unto his [Stephen's] death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison (Acts 8:1–3).

Before he was called, Paul was far from agreeing to the preaching of the Gospel. He was putting all his might into destroying it.

And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do (Acts 9:1–6).

With great zeal, Paul was fighting that religion and persecuting those who were practicing it. However, he was doing so believing that he was a defender of God's Truth. Paul's attitude at the moment of his call reveals that. First he asked: "Who art thou, Lord?" And when he understood whom he was addressing, he said: "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

Then Christ spoke to Ananias in a vision.

... Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake (Acts 9:15–16).

That was the commission that Christ gave to Paul. How did Paul respond?

And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be

filled with the Holy [Spirit]. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God (Acts 9:17–20).

Paul immediately laid hold on his call and he carried out his God-given charge until the end of his life.

The example of the Apostle Paul teaches us that once we have committed to the call that we received from God, we must not draw back, whatever the obstacles. Paul wrote to Timothy:

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing (2 Timothy 4:6–8).

In spite of his past behavior toward the people of God, as soon as Paul understood what God expected of him, he reacted positively. He remained faithful to his call and to his duty until the end. Before Paul died, it was revealed to him that a crown of righteousness was laid up for him. Paul will have a place in God's government along with Jesus Christ and the other elect.

What about Jesus Christ when He lived in the flesh?

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil (Matthew 3:16–17; 4:1).

It was under the guidance of the Holy Spirit that Jesus Christ went into the wilderness. And there He was put to the test.

And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. 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 (Matthew 4:2–4).

Jesus Christ knew that He could not take the liberty of handling the Word of His Father as He pleased. He said that all human beings, Himself included, were to live that Word in its entirety.

"Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him" (Matthew 4:11). Jesus Christ held firm and circumstances showed His favor with the Father. The called of God may experience the same thing. If we remain steadfast while going through a very difficult time, we may suddenly find ourselves in better circumstances.

And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done (Luke 22:39–42).

Being in the most intense agony that a human being can experience, Christ did not give in to the temptation to work things out His way. "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the [spirit]" (Luke 23:46). Jesus Christ in the flesh overcame!

If the same Christ is living in us, we, too, can overcome. In the painful times of our physical lives, Christ gives us hope and courage. In us He creates the determination to live by faith until the end. "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12). They are those who laid hold on the call that they received from God. They take their God-given vocation seriously, that is, they diligently work on their salvation so that they may rule with Christ in the government of God. They strive for that objective by keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus Christ.

What will the responsibilities of the elect be? Replacing war with peace, ashes with beauty, mourning with joy, poverty with prosperity. The way of life of every human being will be built on the faith of God. "[F]or the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9). Man will be given the opportunity to have a happy life because one essential need will be supplied.

And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh (Joel 2:27–28).

For the time being, only the firstfruits have received the Spirit. But the day will come when God will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. God did not intend that man should remain a creature of clay. God wants man to become an immortal being who will think like God and who will live in glory like God. That is why the Spirit of God must be poured upon all flesh. However, man must let the power of that Spirit guide his life. God's Holy Spirit has the power to change man's very nature. But those who reject the intervention of that power in their lives cannot be forgiven.

. . . and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God (Ezekiel 11:19–20).

At this time, God called us to understand His purpose and to be His people. We know what God requires of all those to whom He has given His Spirit—*that they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them*. Also, "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption" (Ephesians 4:30). We grieve the Spirit when we resist the power that prompts us to be obedient to the knowledge that God has given to us. "[T]he Spirit of truth . . . will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). Every human being needs that power in order to master his own nature and to meet his spiritual obligations. God gives us the help of His Spirit so that we can fulfill the purpose of our call. However, God will always let man choose: Does man want to submit to God's Way of Life or not? Does a begotten human being want to let the power of God's Holy Spirit lead him or not?

When the Spirit of God is poured upon all flesh, by that power, unity and peace will reign on the whole earth and human beings will eventually receive the eternal Crowns of Life promised by God.

The called of God today are exhorted by the Apostle Peter:

Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you (2 Corinthians 13:11).

By so many examples recorded in God's Word, we are encouraged not to let our zeal flag. When God allows or wants us to be humbled, let us not lose heart. Let us not lose faith

in God's interventions. "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time" (1 Peter 5:6). Let us have implicit faith in the promises of God, for the day is coming when, "... the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; And all flesh shall see the salvation of God" (Luke 3:5–6). Jesus Christ Himself, "... in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him" (Hebrews 5:7–9).

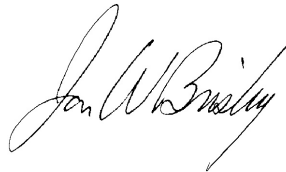
The exhortation of the Apostle Peter will serve as a conclusion:

Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen (2 Peter 3:17–18).

With our love and our constant prayers,
Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. Aviolat'.

Jean Aviolat

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Jon W. Brisby'.

Jon W. Brisby