

affliction" (Genesis 41:52).

A lot of times we didn't understand what was happening & we didn't see all the answers, but we learned through all this to keep our eyes on Him, & as it says in "Letter To A Labourer" (325:7) "Cling to His Word". It sure has changed our lives & shaken us up to realize the heavy war which we are in, & to do our most for Him each day, as time is short; GBY; MLY;

-Angelo's Letter to the Family after 41 days in prison!

Dear P & M, Simon & all,

GBY: ILY & need & miss you so so much, PTL. 41 days of prison, Sunday 21/3. I felt such a need to write & share some of the things that are on my heart & things that the Lord is doing here.

First of all I want to ask you to forgive me for not having written sooner. This lack on my part certainly wasn't due to a lack of love because I love you all so much, but was due to thinking I was going to get out sooner, PTL. His ways are not our ways; I know that He is doing His will with all this situation & one day we will understand. He is certainly changing my life (& Sarah's GBH). The encouragements that the Lord constantly gives me are innumerable & wonderful & sometimes even shocking & many make me feel quite unworthy.

I received a note of encouragement from Dad saying that perhaps this situation will help to win back Emanuele and maybe Rachel, DV. As you can imagine, my greatest desire would be to get out of here right away & run to you with my family & often this desire is so strong that my heart seems to burst. I think of you often with so much love & nostalgia & this forced separation is bringing to light my true feelings for each one of you. A few days ago, while I was praying for you, my heart broke thinking of how good the Lord has been with me, giving me the chance to be part of Loveville and, DV, Shanghai-la. But also my heart was broken at the thought of how much more I could have done to be closer to each one of you and show more of the love that He has given us for one another. I want to ask forgiveness from each one of you for this lack & I'm praying that the Lord will give me the chance to love & work with you again.

Being here certainly makes me appreciate more what we have in the family - that is love - His Love. If only the world could have this love, places like this wouldn't exist. The most terrible thing about this place is the waste of human lives. There are hundreds of young people with sentences of more than 5-10 years just because they made some error in their life. This is the hospital at the foot of the cliff that could have been avoided if there had been a fence at the top! These are human beings who are not part of this society but who are not yet dropped out. These are people who we are used to seeing in the headlines of the papers & which society calls "criminals" - but seen from within here they are lost sheep with no shepherd.

One day I was praying & I began to cry at the thought of my beloved children & at the thought of Sarah & all of you. Crying & praying to the Lord to free me - And He asked me: "Do you miss the family?" and I answered, "Of course, Lord, You know I miss them all." And He said, "Do you miss your wife?" And weeping all the more I answered, "Lord, You know how much I miss her." He asked, "Do you miss your children?" and at this point I was desperate & I answered, "Lord, You know how much my heart is broken for the nostalgia I have for my dear ones & that I can't even think of my children without crying. You know how much I suffer for the lack of them, and He said: "How you know how much I suffer for the lack of my dear lost sheep." At that moment I would have liked to die of shame. Here I was crying like a child for my own dear ones & all around me were hundreds of people for whom He had given His life & who are lost. At that moment I felt so small & miserable. The Lord has given me so much in love, affection, family, work, talents, guidance & protection and uncountable things & I was not even thinking of Him & how He feels for us & for His lost sheep.

This, here inside, is such a clear reflection on the outside world. These are the fruits of the devil's handiwork. For many of them it's too late, but I feel that I must push & try to witness more at any cost. If any of you have experiences from prison you know how hard it is to witness in here. At first, I thought that since everyone here is so sad and desperate they would receive the message with open arms. But here there are both big and small criminals. There's the "Panamae Gang" - who have robbed over a million dollars & the "Columbian Band" who held up 22 jewelers in one week. Every type of drug pusher, thief,

embezzler, but everyone declares themselves innocent so you can imagine how much you can talk to them about Jesus. They see you as one of them - a criminal - & since they are all organizing new plans & gangs for when they get out, they think that you, when you talk to them of Jesus, are proposing some new kind of deal. But, PTL!

To make it clearer I'll give you some statistics & details. Here they call me "The Preacher" & my catacomb church is my "gang". Many make fun of me but more of them respect me because they think I'm some kind of "new style criminal" who has invented a new way of making money... Well I've become one! The catacomb church here is made up of 22 people (20 blacks, 1 brown, & I am the only white), two are thieves, one is an assassin & the others are drug pushers. Three of them are really strong & the Spirit is really changing their life. One of them has written the family in France to ask for more letters and wants to join the family as soon as he gets out. The one who is closest is Johnny, a Negro from Ghana - drug pusher. He bought his farm with the proceeds from drugs & is quite rich in Ghana. He has 2 wives & 6 children. He wants to forsake all to the family & serve the Lord full-time. He wants to buy time on the national radio in Ghana & spread the message for all his nation. GBH. He's virgo & reminds me a lot of Silas. He'll probably be out within this year.

Excuse me if this letter is so long, but I have such a desire to be with you that I could keep on writing all day. But I want to close with the prayer that I will see you all soon. You are all in my heart & my prayers. Thank you for all your love, prayers & help. Please pray also for the brothers in here - most of all that the Lord gives them a real love for the Word, which is the only thing that will set them free. PTL: Lots & lots of love to everyone.

Your Angelo

Letter to Dad & Maria!

-A VISION OF A PRODIGAL DAUGHTER!

Dear Ones,

Saturday, 27th March, 1982

God bless you. I love you and need you so so much and pray for you and for your health and am ever more grateful for you and all that you do for everyone of us. Precious loving parents in the Lord, a hundred times more loving than those we left, PTL. I felt the need to write this letter to share some of the things that I received just now as I was praying.

You know how much I loved Rachel, and in these days the Lord, it seems, has been stirring up this love and I often pray for her and for Emanuele. So today also as I was praying I began to pray for her that the Lord would give her another chance and I felt that the Lord was listening to my prayer and I felt that He would give me some kind of answer in some way if I would ask for a promise. And right away I received Isaiah 54:7-8. For a small moment I have forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy redeemer." PTL! At that moment my heart broke & I began to cry and ask for pity for her and for all the prodigal sons, pray that Jesus would give us the love to gather them again when they come back (as you said in the last 3 paragraphs of "Let Go And Let God", HL 1091). I prayed that the Lord would help us to gather them again, not only as a family but also as a family of love. As my wife has often reminded me in these days, in the verse of one of my songs I wrote with Peter Pioneer for the MHS MAM, "No matter how much we must give to help one man live, MHS MAM crew will not leave without you and we won't be content till everyone is back in His service." As I continued to pray and receive these encouraging things, I began to have a vision. I saw Rachel kneeling at the last step of a long stair case that went up a high mountain. She was kneeling high up on the last step. Her face was so sad and I think she was crying. To see that sad face gave me more faith to pray, Oh Dad, I hope that this is not a vision that comes from my mind or from my heart, coming only from the love that I have for Rachel, but I pray that it's a real answer from the Lord. I know that this night cause you a reopening of the wound that Rachel left in your heart because I know how much you love her and Emanuele. And though I'm not very familiar with revelations of this sort, I felt that I who go back and forth three times a week without fail always bringing new material. Now, after the visits, everyone comes to my cell because they know that there will be new publications. GBY. I would like, and I am praying that all the family could do something for the poor people in prisons. The life that they lead is incredible and many of them are really poor just sheep without a shepherd and certainly if they had met love, real love, they would not be here. Many of them are potential disciples who have come to the end of themselves and know that they have no hope. They just need an example and need to see someone who loves them. Many of them are here for years without receiving any visits as they live so far from home and in many cases they have even been renounced & abandoned by their loved ones and relatives because of their bad reputation. I am beginning to pass on the names of some of them so that the family can begin to write to them, God willing. They are very sensitive and sceptical and need genuine love, a sample and not just a sermon. They receive hundreds of sermons and are disgusted. Shortly we will have a prayer meeting because one of them will go to court tomorrow. I pray that the Lord gives them the possibility to try again. Unfortunately, many of them will probably be destroyed by the war. I pray that Jesus helps them. Please forgive me if this letter is so long and it could be longer because my heart is full of gratitude and love for all the encouragement and sincere affection that you give me. I love you so much and pray for you all.

Faithfully, Your son in the Lord,

Angelo

P.S. Thank you so much for the beautiful letter, "The Word", that caused such a change in my life. Boom! It hit the mark one more time, directly in my heart and I believe not only in my heart. I hope that it will cause the same effect in all those who like me, have neglected the Word so much - God forgive us, I pray it will bring everyone back to the wall. I never realized how important the Word is until I found myself in this situation, and now I can affirm that if I had not had the Word I would have been "dead" literally, or ever worse, crazy. I don't even understand how I managed to survive till now with such little Word. God forgive me. Now I know that I can't live without it. Thank you for your unending faithfulness in lovingly administering and furnishing this vital life line. I love you forever,

Your Angelo.

Testimonies From The Catacomb Church!

These are a series of excerpts from Angelo's letters on the progress of the catacombs church in the Athens prison:

- "Two of the catacombs church here have prayed for the Holy Spirit, TYJ. Things go very slowly but I know that God is doing great changes in the lives of everyone here. We need to help them to change their lives, & we need to ask the help of the family here. Would you like to help me? All they need is the love of the family & it's not enough what I'm doing because I'm here in the same situation that they are. They need to see the example of the family. Sometimes they get a visit from a priest from the English church, & that makes them happy for weeks. Please Money, let me know who is there in Athens & where they live. For the people that are in here even a visit every 2 weeks

would be an incredible joy. Please, please help them, OK? I know that everyone is very busy but we can try.

The Bible says to do it but we hardly ever do it. Honey, what will happen to them when I am gone? They need love like all of us and even more. I don't even want to think about them going back to being human larvae as soon as I'm gone. I don't do much for them, I can't do much. I can't force them to stay in the Word. They are disillusioned people, lonely, far away from their home land. But if they could communicate with the family, with some visits, & personal letters, they would be fed with a loving human contact. You understand?

Maybe this is one of the main reasons why I'm here so long. Honey, here there are at least 10 potential brothers. Will

"All Things Work Together for Good!"

31st March, 1982

Dear Ones, God bless you! I love and need you so so much and it is simply fantastic to see the unity of our sweet family. To know that so many people are praying for me and for this situation and to feel that you are praying for me, has filled my heart with new faith.

Thank you so much from the depth of my heart for all the love and care and concern. As you said, "All things work together for good" and the Lord is certainly fulfilling His purposes, especially in my life. The very fact that I am in this forced exile without my work, my guitar, my family, and without the possibility of doing anything else but reading, praying and witnessing (which is a lot) is a clear demonstration that the Lord wants to speak with me. May God forgive me for having been so deaf, since He certainly had warned me in the past that I should have paid more attention to Him. Sometimes the devil attacks me so severely that I feel that my heart hurts me. So I run immediately to the Word & prayer. The Lord is so loving and faithful and helps me and frees me from everyone of these attacks, but often not before I have listened and understood what He wanted me to understand. So I know that He is letting me be tried to make me run to Him for help and that He is using this to show me, sometimes speak to me, sometimes teach me but always with infinite care, love and mercy. "For He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust." (Psalm 103:14). TYJ!

I can't even begin to explain how much I am grateful for your love and understanding. I have rediscovered the letters and the Word of the Lord in a new way - more alive. I've been witnessing in every possible way. 29 people have received Jesus in their heart up till now. There are constantly people who come to my cell to ask something or ask for some advice and I always try to answer from the Word and to put their faith in the Word. I have distributed letters and publications in Italian, Spanish, German, French & in English. I have also put up on the walls of my room our new fantastic calendar & the posters of the prophecies of the End Time and when someone asks me what they are I have an opportunity to witness. TYJ, I have just started a class on Revelation. I was afraid to begin because unfortunately (God forgive me) I don't know much about it. But, TYJ, I remembered that once you prayed to ask the Lord to show you the meaning of Revelation because you needed to teach it, and the Lord told you that it means exactly what was written there and